

44942 M  
County Borough of Walsall

1938



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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER  
TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1938



JAMES A. M. CLARK,  
M.D. Ch.B., D.P.H.



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FOR THE YEAR 1938



JAMES A. M. CLARK,  
M.D. Ch.B., D.P.H.

# CONTENTS

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	PAGES
GENERAL - - - - -	6 — 25
INFECTIOUS DISEASES - - - - -	26 — 30
MUNICIPAL GENERAL HOSPITAL - - - - -	31 — 33
VENEREAL DISEASE - - - - -	34 — 35
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA - - - - -	36 — 48
HOUSING . . - - - - -	49 — 63
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD - - - - -	64 — 69
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE - - - - -	70 — 88
MENTAL DEFICIENCY - - - - -	89 — 91
TUBERCULOSIS - - - - -	92 — 106
SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE - - - - -	107 — 141
REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR - - - - -	142 — 167
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST - - - - -	168 — 173



# COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

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## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

From November, 1937, to November, 1938.

### Chairman :

COUNCILLOR A. J. STANLEY.

### Vice-Chairman :

ALDERMAN R. B. SUTTON.

Alderman P. COLLINS.  
Alderman H. HUCKER, J.P.  
Councillor Mrs. G. CRESSWELL, J.P.  
Councillor J. A. DAIN.  
Councillor E. P. DRABBLE, (Mayor).

Councillor M. J. KAVANAGH.  
Councillor Mrs. A. McSHANE.  
Councillor A. W. PERCOX.  
Councillor J. SUMMERS.  
Councillor S. WIGGIN.

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## HEALTH (MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE) SUB-COMMITTEE.

### Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MRS. A. McSHANE.

### Vice-Chairman :

Councillor A. J. STANLEY.

Alderman R. B. SUTTON.  
Councillor Mrs. G. CRESSWELL, J.P.  
Councillor E. P. DRABBLE, (Mayor)  
Councillor M. J. KAVANAGH.

Councillor A. W. PERCOX.  
\*Mrs. E. E. CLARK.  
\*Miss J. M. ELLIOT.

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## EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

### Chairman:

Councillor E. B. STAMMERS.

### Vice-Chairman :

Councillor H. BUSILL-JONES.

Alderman W. MILLERCHIP, J.P., M.B.E.  
Councillor H. W. BONNER, J.P.  
Councillor F. W. EVANS, J.P.  
Councillor H. G. J. FLETCHER.  
Councillor D. JONES, J.P.  
Councillor H. LINES.  
Councillor C. S. MOORE.  
Councillor C. C. POOLE, M.P.

Councillor T. P. RILEY, J.P.  
Councillor W. R. WHEWAY, J.P.  
\*Mrs. HOWARD KEAY.  
\*Mr. H. LENTON LESTER.  
\*Mr. H. SKEELS.  
\*Miss M. V. STAFFORD.  
\*Mr. F. G. THOMAS.  
\*Rev. CANON YEO.

\* Co-opted Members.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

---

**Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer**  
JAMES A. M. CLARK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**Chief Assistant Medical Officer of Health :**  
F. J. WELTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**Assistant Medical Officers of Health :**  
H. M. SHANKS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
N. V. HEPPLER, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

**School Medical Inspector :**  
L. C. ADAM, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

### Manor Hospital :

Medical Superintendent ..	E. S. CLAYTON, M.D., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).
Assistant Resident Medical Officers .. .. .	L. RUSKIN, M.B., Ch.B. (Appointed 19/1/38) C. F. LUCAS, M.B., Ch.B. J. BURKE, M.B., B. Ch. B.A.O. (Appointed 24/4/38).
Consultant Surgeon ..	B. T. ROSE, M.S., F.R.C.S. (Eng.).
Consultant Physician ..	T. L. HARDY, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. (Lond.).
Consultant Surgeon (Ear, Nose and Throat) ..	C. NAYLOR STRONG, L.D.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.E. (Appointed 1/2/38)
Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist .. ..	W. C. BARNIE-ADSHEAD, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., M.C.O.G. (Appointed 1/4/38)
Radiologist .. .. .	G. E. DYAS, B.A., M.B., D.M.R.E.
Dental Surgeon .. ..	A. J. BROWN, L.D.S.
Matron .. .. .	MISS D. J. DUNN.
Steward .. .. .	D. M. MORRIS.
Dispenser .. .. .	MISS D. GRIFFITHS.

### School Dentists :

D. A. PARSONS, L.D.S.  
N. L. COOKSON, L.D.S.  
M. G. HUMPHREY, L.D.S.

### Venereal Diseases Medical Officer :

↔R. FORREST, M.B., Ch.B. (Resigned 31/3/38)  
F. J. WELTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 1/4/38)

### Public Analyst :

↔F. E. THOMPSON, F.I.C.

### Chief Sanitary Inspector :

\*†C. A. STANSBURY.

### Assistant Inspectors :

*†E. F. B. A. MINER (Meat Inspector).	* S. J. T. WOOD.
* E. O. EDWARDS (Appointed 1/4/38)	*†W. J. WOODWARD.
* W. H. M. EDWARDS (Temporary; Appointed 28/4/38)	*†I. THOMAS (Resigned 31/7/38)
*†G. LEEDER.	* P. G. TREMAIN.
*†S. MONKS.	* H. L. BIRKERT (Temporary; Resigned 31/1/38)
*†G. N. RICHARDS (Resigned 31/3/38)	
* R. C. GREEN (From 7/3/38 to 25/4/38 temporary)	

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF—continued.

**Inspector of Midwives :**

‡\*Mrs. A. SAUNDERS, H.V.

**Health Visitors :**

**† Miss E. BETTERIDGE.	Miss G. N. SADLER.
† „ E. G. JONES.	**† „ M. E. SIDNEY.
**† „ M. JONES.	**† „ E. M. SLADER.
** „ E. M. O'KELLY.	**† „ E. STOKES (Appointed 21/3/38)
**† „ W. M. MILLS.	† Mrs. M. TAYLOR.
**† „ S. A. NOLAN.	† Miss E. WIDDOWSON (Resigned
** „ A. QUICK.	13/1/38)
† „ A. E. ROGERS.	

**School Nurses :**

Mrs. M. EVANS.

Miss F. SAUNDERS.

**School Dental Nurse :**

Miss B. L. BENNETT.

**Municipal Midwives :**

‡L. M. DAYS (Appointed 1/10/38)	‡A. M. KIRK.
‡E. ENSOR.	‡E. MARKLAND (Resigned 13/10/38)
‡K. M. FURNIVAL (Appointed 1/11/38)	‡H. A. PARSONS.
‡M. GAVAN.	‡C. PEARCE.
‡E. GIBBS.	‡M. M. RILEY (Resigned 30/4/38)
‡D. M. E. HILL.	‡E. M. SMITH.
‡S. J. KENDRICK (Appointed 1/2/38)	‡M. TUIE.

**Goscote Isolation Hospital and Goscote Sanatorium :**

‡Matron : Miss M. J. BIRD, S.R.N.

**Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital :**

‡Matron : Miss E. WILKINSON, S.R.N.

**Pelsall Sanatorium :**

Matron : Miss E. A. BRADSHAW, R.R.C., S.R.N.

**Secretary Dispenser :**

Miss G. COTTERELL.

**Chief Clerk and Vaccination Officer :**

P. SHOESMITH.

**Clerical Staff :**

N. AULIFFE.	Miss F. M. COOPER.
F. WEBB.	„ C. M. TAYLOR.
B. SMITH.	„ K. M. LUNN.
C. RILEY.	„ I. D. KINSON (Resigned 10/9/38)
F. G. S. HILL.	„ J. W. BRITAIN (Appointed 26/9/38)
J. E. SMITH.	„ J. D. TOMKINS (Appointed 28/11/38)
V. J. STANFORTH.	„ I. L. SEYMOUR (Manor Hospital).

↔ The V.D. Medical Officer and Public Analyst are part-time Officers.

\* Certificate as Sanitary Inspector.

† Certificate as Meat Inspector.

‡ Certified Midwife.

\*\* Health Visitor's Certificate.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the County Borough of Walsall for the year 1938.

The population, as revealed by the Census of 1931, was 103,059 the estimated population as at June 30th, 1938, being 107,300.

The 1938 death rate was lower than that for the previous year, being 10.99 per 1,000 of the population, as against 12.01 in 1937. This rate compares favourably with that of England and Wales as a whole, 11.6, and with the great towns, 11.7.

The birth rate shows a slight increase, being 18.62 per 1,000, as against 17.90 in 1937, and an average of 18.39 during the past five years. The birth rate for the country as a whole is 15.1, and that of the great towns, 15.0.

The Infant Mortality Rate was higher than it has been during the past two years, being 64.56 as compared with 57.01 in 1937. The increase is largely due to the increased number of deaths from prematurity and allied causes. The newly born premature infant demands special environmental conditions, constant and skilled care and atten-



tion, and we are not yet in a position to deal adequately with these babies. Whilst we now have accommodation at the Manor Hospital which could be adapted for this purpose, we have not the necessary nursing staff, for a premature baby occupies practically the whole time of one nurse.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales as a whole was 53, and for the great towns 57.

The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was the lowest recorded in Walsall, being 0.60 per 1,000 of the population. The death rate from all forms of tuberculosis 0.66, was also the lowest rate ever recorded in Walsall, the previous best having been 0.75 which was the death rate from all forms of the disease in 1935. The rates compare with 0.78 and 0.92 respectively in 1938.

121 cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, as against 175 in 1937, and 85 in 1936, and there were 3 deaths, as compared with 10 in the previous year. 296 cases of scarlet fever were notified, as against 442 in the previous year. The disease was of mild type, and there were no deaths, 261 cases of whooping cough were notified from the schools, and there were eight deaths from this cause.

During the year 269 houses were represented as unfit, 209 in clearance areas, 42 as "individual unfits," and 18 as parts of buildings for closing. 455 unfit houses were actually closed, and 527 houses demolished, 1,943 persons being displaced.

3,630 unfit houses have been represented since the Housing Act 1936 came into operation, the number dealt with during 1938 being the smallest number dealt with in any one year for some considerable time. The slowing down in housing work is not due to the lack of houses to be dealt with but to other causes. Owing to the long interval which elapsed between the representation of unfit houses and the receipt of confirmation orders to which I referred in my last year's annual report, 200 houses built specifically for slum clearance purposes could not be immediately occupied, and so were diverted to other purposes. When the confirming orders relating to a large number of clearance and compulsory purchase orders were actually received,



we found ourselves with a large number of families awaiting rehousing but no houses to which they could be moved. At the end of 1938 there were no fewer than 506 unfit houses still in occupation.

Again during the past twelve months we have had to devote a very considerable amount of time to the very onerous and responsible duties which have been put upon us in connection with Civil Defence. The routine work of a Health Department cannot be put upon one side, but the work of slum clearance has had to be suspended for the time being.

For many weeks on end your Medical Officer of Health has devoted not only the whole of his working day but much of his hypothetical leisure time to the problems of Civil Defence. The work has been of such a nature that little of it could be delegated to any of his Assistant Medical Officers, all of whom are employed full time on clinical or hospital duties. Any shortcomings in this report must be put down to the time thus occupied.

In conclusion I desire to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their kind consideration and help during a difficult period, and to the members of my staff I would express my sincere gratitude for their generous help and co-operation at all times.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JAMES A. M. CLARK, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1939.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

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### 1. General Statistics.

Area in Acres	..	..	..	..	..	8,780
Population (At Census 1931)	..	..	..	..	..	103,059
Number of Inhabited Houses	{	At	..	..	..	23,311
Number of Families		1931 Census	..	..	..	24,953
Population 1938 (estimated)	..	..	..	..	..	107,300
Number of New Houses erected in 1938	..	..	..	..	..	971
Number of Inhabited Houses 1938	..	..	..	..	..	27,676
Number of Persons per House	..	..	..	..	..	3.88
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£539,431
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£2,070
Population per Acre	..	..	..	..	..	12.2

### 2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Number of Births	{	Legitimate	M. 966—F. 983—Total 1,949—	Total	1,998
	{	Illegitimate	M. 28—F. 21—Total 49—		
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	18.62
Number of Deaths (M. 601, F. 578)	..	..	..	Total	1,179
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	10.99
Standardised Death Rate	..	..	..	..	12.30
Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth—					
From Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	2
From other Puerperal Causes	..	..	..	..	4
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 (live and still) Births	..	..	..	..	2.90
Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	..	..	..	..	129
Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births	..	..	..	..	64.56
Infant Mortality (legitimate infants) per 1,000 births	..	..	..	..	63.11
Do. (illegitimate infants) do.	..	..	..	..	122.45
Death Rates per 1,000 Population, from—					
Respiratory Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	0.60
All forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	0.66
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	..	1.51
Cancer	..	..	..	..	1.30
Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases (Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup)	..	..	..	..	0.11

## Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of Children under

2 years of age, per 1,000 births	..	..	..	6.01
Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years	..	..	..	12
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	8

## CORONER'S INQUESTS.

167 inquests were held in the Borough during the year (100 males and 67 females).

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATIONS ordered by Coroner .. .. 105

## SUMMARY OF INQUESTS.

					M.	F.
Death by Murder	..	..	..	..	—	—
„ Suicide	..	..	..	..	10	4
„ Manslaughter and Infanticide				..	—	—
„ Self-induced Abortion			..	..	—	1
„ Excessive Drinking	..	..	..		—	—
„ Want of Attention at Birth	..	..			—	—
Accident or Misadventure	..	..	..		34	30
Death from Natural Causes	..	..	..		55	31
Stillborn	..	..	..	..	—	1
Open Verdicts	..	..	..	..	1	—
Inquests adjourned	..	..	..	..	—	—
					100	67

Inquests on children suffocated whilst in bed

(accidental) .. .. . — —

Inquests on bodies of newly born children .. 3 1

## BIRTHS.

The number of births registered of Walsall residents, whether occurring in Walsall or outside the Borough, is 1998, 994 of whom were males and 1,004 females. Of this number 1,949 were legitimate (966 males and 983 females) and 49 (28 males and 21 females) illegitimate.

The birth rate for 1938 is therefore 18.62 per 1,000 of population compared with 17.9 per 1,000 during 1937. The average birth rate for the last five years is 18.39.

## STILLBIRTHS.

The following stillbirths, corrected figures, are allocated to the Borough :

Males	..	..	..	37
Females	..	..	..	37
				—
Total	..			74
				—

Of this number, 1 female was illegitimate.

The rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) is 35.7.

## DEATHS.

The number of Deaths registered during the year was 1,267, giving a rate per thousand of the population of 11.81 (a decrease on the previous year, when we had 1,345 deaths, with a rate of 12.59). If we exclude the number of persons (139) dying in the Borough belonging to other districts, and include (51) those belonging to the Borough dying beyond the Borough, we have a correct number of 1,179, giving a death rate of 10.99. The average death rate for the past five years is 11.41.

In order that the local death rate may be compared with death rates of other towns and the country as a whole, the Registrar-General has supplied an adjusting factor (1.12) by which the crude death rate may be converted to one comparable with mortality statistics of other areas.

The adjusted death rate for Walsall for the year 1938 is 12.30 per 1,000 of the population.

Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages, of residents belonging to the Borough :

At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards
1179	129	21	16	17	43	116	286	272	279

## VACCINATIONS.

The total number of successful Vaccinations carried out during 1938 was 220. Number of statutory declarations of conscientious objection made during the same period was 1,559.



Table I

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH, DURING THE YEAR 1938

CAUSES OF DEATH	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the District									WARDS Net Deaths at all Ages of "Residents" belonging to Wards, whether occurring in or beyond the District										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.		
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and un. 2 yrs.	2 and un. 5 yrs.	5 and un. 15 yrs.	15 and un. 25 yrs.	25 and un. 45 yrs.	45 and un. 65 yrs.	65 and un. 75 yrs.	75 and upwards	BLOXWICH	LEAMORE	HARDEN	BIRCHILLS	HATHERTON	PADDOCK	BRIDGE	PLECK	CALDMORE		PALFREY	
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	8	4	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
Diphtheria	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	14
Influenza	27	2	1	..	..	1	5	9	5	4	4	1	4	5	2	3	4	1	2	1	1	5
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	64	..	..	..	..	13	28	18	5	..	5	4	13	9	1	5	11	5	3	8	21	21
Other Tuberculous Diseases	6	..	3	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	9



[illegible]

Table II

## CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH, 1938

As furnished by the Registrar-General

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES	.. .. .	M. F.	601 578	75 54	11 10	7 9	8 9	17 26	59 57	148 138	149 123	127 152
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.. .. .	M. F. M.	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — 1	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
2. Measles	.. .. .	F. M.	1 —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
3. Scarlet Fever	.. .. .	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
4. Whooping Cough	.. .. .	M. F.	3 5	2 2	1 1	— 2	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
5. Diphtheria	.. .. .	M. F.	2 1	— —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
6. Influenza	.. .. .	M. F.	12 15	1 1	— 1	— —	— —	1 —	3 2	3 6	2 3	2 2
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	.. .. .	M. F.	— 2	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 2	— —	— —
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.. .. .	M. F.	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	.. .. .	M. F.	29 35	— —	— —	— —	— —	3 10	10 18	12 6	4 1	— —
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	.. .. .	M. F.	4 2	— —	1 2	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —
11. Syphilis	.. .. .	M. F.	4 1	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	3 —	— —	— —
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	.. .. .	M. F.	2 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 —	— —	— —
13. Cancer, malignant disease	.. .. .	M. F.	62 77	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	5 4	30 43	18 20	9 10
14. Diabetes	.. .. .	M. F.	7 11	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 1	2 3	3 6	2 1

No.	Disease	F.	M.	Total
16.	Heart Disease	..	..	..
17.	Aneurysm ..	..	..	..
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..
19.	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..
22.	Peptic Ulcer ..	..	..	..
23.	Diarrhoea, etc.	..	..	..
24.	Appendicitis ..	..	..	..
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver ..	..	..	..
26.	Other Diseases of Liver	..	..	..
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	..	..	..
29.	Puerperal Sepsis ..	..	..	..
30.	Other Puerperal Causes	..	..	..
31.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	..	..	..
32.	Senility ..	..	..	..
33.	Suicide ..	..	..	..
34.	Other Violence ..	..	..	..
35.	Other Defined Diseases	..	..	..
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	..	..	..

Table III

## WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH

## CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1938

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT												TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD									Total Deaths	
	At All Ages.	At Ages—Years											Bloxwich Ward	Leamore Ward	Harden Ward	Birchills Ward	Hatherton Ward	Paddock Ward	Bridge Ward	Pleck Ward	Caldmore Ward		Palfrey Ward
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65											
Small-Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera (C.) Plague (P.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	121	4	4	11	8	55	29	4	5	—	—	—	—	7	6	45	7	12	2	10	11	9	3
Erysipelas ..	41	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	11	8	14	3	—	6	2	6	5	1	4	3	6	4	—
Scarlet Fever ..	296	1	4	10	21	132	60	17	27	4	—	—	—	35	27	53	22	18	31	36	21	39	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	2	1	1	1

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ..	7	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	84	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	19	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia	242	8	13	8	10	3	26	19	26	36	26	52	15	31	16	64	25	13	15	14	25	13	26	89*	17	89*	17
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	829	15	24	24	44	32	218	122	61	118	59	91	21	89	58	197	73	48	62	59	82	63	98	165	165	165	165

For particulars of cases removed to the Isolation Hospitals, see Table VIII.

\*These deaths do not necessarily refer to the cases notified.



Table IV

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH—WHOLE DISTRICT

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various ages under One year of age

CAUSES OF DEATH	Total Deaths under One Year	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & under 3 months	3 & under 6 months	6 & under 9 months	9 & under 12 months	Bloxwich	Leamore	Harden	Birchills	Hatherton	Paddock	Bridge	Pleck	Caldmore	Palfrey
Measles .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Common Infectious Diseases .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis..	11	—	1	1	1	3	3	4	1	—	—	1	5	2	—	—	1	1	—	1
Premature Birth ..	44	34	3	2	—	39	5	—	—	—	4	1	8	6	1	3	7	5	2	7
Congenital Defects, Atelectasis, Malformations ..	23	9	3	2	3	17	5	1	—	—	1	—	4	2	4	1	3	1	3	4
Congenital Debility, Sclerema and Icterus ..	9	7	1	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	2	2	—	—	—
Tubercular Diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ..	27	—	1	1	—	2	2	11	6	6	5	2	4	2	—	1	4	5	3	1
Other Causes .. ..	11	2	—	—	1	3	1	4	3	—	1	1	1	2	1	1	—	1	2	1
TOTALS ..	129	52	9	6	5	72	16	22	12	7	13	8	24	15	6	8	17	13	10	15

Table V

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS		Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		NETT		Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
		Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births		Number
1925	102,300	2257	22.06	1377	14.43	63	76	260	115.19	1390	13.58
1926	102,100	2154	21.09	1155	11.31	92	71	180	83.56	1176	11.51
1927	102,000	2125	20.83	1277	12.51	81	104	205	96.47	1300	12.74
1928	100,200	2031	20.27	1210	12.08	98	100	187	92.07	1212	12.10
1929	100,100	1979	19.77	1516	15.14	78	76	198	100.05	1514	15.12
1930	100,100	2058	20.56	1176	11.75	110	51	142	69.00	1117	11.16
1931	104,300	2034	19.54	1230	11.82	121	69	159	73.75	1178	11.32
1932	104,700	2005	19.15	1260	12.03	119	54	146	72.82	1195	11.41
1933	105,400	1883	17.87	1331	12.63	112	68	167	88.69	1287	12.21
1934	105,600	1902	18.01	1206	11.42	123	74	131	68.87	1157	10.96
1935	106,000	2004	18.91	1242	11.72	125	73	135	67.37	1190	11.22
1936	106,400	1968	18.50	1305	12.27	103	63	121	61.48	1265	11.89
1937	106,800	1912	17.90	1345	12.59	120	58	109	57.01	1283	12.01
1938	107,300	1998	18.62	1267	11.81	139	51	129	64.56	1179	10.99
Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)		.. 8,780		Total Population at all ages .. 103,059				At Census of 1931			

Table VI

## BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY

during the Year 1938

As furnished by the Registrar-General

TABLE SHOWING DEATH-RATES, ETC., IN WALSALL, as compared with England and Wales, 126 Great Towns (including London), 148 Smaller Towns (the rates have been calculated on the census populations of 1931)

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION										RATE PER 1,000	
													LIVE BIRTHS	LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under 1 year	Maternal Mortality	
ENGLAND AND WALES .. .. .	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	5.5	53	3.08	
126 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000) .	15.0	0.65	11.7	0.00	—	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.10	7.8	57	—	
148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 25,000—50,000).. .. .	15.4	0.60	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.11	3.6	51	—	
London .. .. .	13.4	0.48	11.4	0.00	—	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	13.1	57	—	
WALSALL .. .. .	18.6	0.69	11.0	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.07	0.03	0.25	6.0	65	2.90	

## HOSPITALS, CLINICS, NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, AMBULANCE FACILITIES, Etc.

### Hospitals.

1. Walsall General Hospital—A voluntary Institution (174 beds).
2. Manor Hospital—Health Committee (303 beds).
3. Goscote Isolation Hospital—Health Committee (60 beds—Infectious Diseases) (22 beds—Tuberculosis).
4. Sneyd Lane Isolation Hospital (Smallpox)—Health Committee (12 beds).
5. Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital—Maternity and Child Welfare Committee (10 beds).
6. Pelsall Sanatorium (Tuberculosis)—Health Committee (37 beds).

Arrangements have been made with the Royal Cripples' Hospital, Birmingham, for the hospital treatment of our cases of surgical tuberculosis, nine beds being reserved at The Woodlands, additional beds being provided as required.

MATERNITY.—Cases of puerperal pyrexia requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the Goscote Isolation Hospital.

CHILDREN.—Nil.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE AND HOMELESS CHILDREN IN THE DISTRICT.—In certain circumstances, unmarried mothers are admitted to the Legge Memorial Home, Wolverhampton. The arrangements for illegitimate homeless children are in the hands of the Public Assistance Committee.

### Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For infectious disease cases two motor ambulances have been provided. Both are stationed at the Isolation Hospital.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases two motor ambulances are kept at the Fire Station.



### School Clinics.

Three School Clinics are provided—at Bradford Street, Littleton Street, and at Field Road, Bloxwich.

BRADFORD STREET. Doctors' days—Monday and Wednesday morning; nurse in attendance each morning, and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

LITTLETON STREET. Doctors' days—Tuesday and Friday morning; nurse in attendance each morning and Tuesday afternoon.

FIELD ROAD. Doctors' days—Friday afternoon; nurse in attendance Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon.

The Central Dental Clinic and the Eye Clinic are held at Bradford Street; there is a Dental Clinic for the northern end of the Borough at Field Road, and a Dental Clinic at the Littleton Street School Clinic.

### Rheumatic Clinic

LITTLETON STREET. Saturday, 10 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

### Orthopaedic Clinic

MASSAGE CLINIC. Daily, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.  
2 p.m.—5 p.m.

DRESSINGS CLINIC. Wednesday, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.  
2 p.m.—5 p.m.

### Infant Welfare Centres

POOL STREET. Monday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.  
Friday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.

FIELD ROAD. Tuesday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.  
Thursday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.  
Friday, 10.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

IDA ROAD. Monday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.  
Wednesday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.

LITTLETON STREET. Wednesday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.  
Friday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.

MILTON STREET. Tuesday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.  
Thursday, 2.30—4.30 p.m.



### **Ante-Natal Clinics**

POOL STREET.	Monday,	10 a.m.	Tuesday, 6—8 p.m.
IDA ROAD.	Thursday,	10 a.m.	
MILTON STREET.	Friday,	10 a.m.	
FIELD ROAD.	Wednesday,	10 a.m.	Friday, 6—8 p.m.

A Medical Officer attends all Infant Welfare Sessions and Ante-Natal Clinics.

### **Toddlers' Clinics**

Toddlers' Clinics are held at the various Infant Welfare Centres on Saturday mornings.

### **Tuberculosis Dispensary, 4 Hatherton Road**

Open each day 10 a.m.—1 p.m.; 2.15—5.30 p.m.

Medical Clinics, Monday afternoon, Wednesday morning, Thursday evening (1st and 3rd Thursdays, 6.30—8 p.m.), Friday morning.

### **V.D. Clinic, Manor Hospital**

Open for Males, Monday and Thursday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

Open for Females, Tuesday and Wednesday, 4.30 to 6 p.m.

### **Ultra Violet Light Clinic**

Tuberculosis Dispensary	..	Tuesday,	10 a.m.—5 p.m.
		Thursday,	10 a.m.—5 p.m.

### **Professional Nursing in the Home**

(a) General—Victoria Nursing Institution.

(b) Infectious Diseases—None.

MIDWIVES.—Fifty-four Midwives notified their intention to practise in the District during 1938. Six of these were employed by the Public Authority at the Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital, and twenty-five at the Manor Hospital. Twelve Midwives were employed by the Council on the external midwifery service.

### **Laboratory Work**

During the year, 737 specimens were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and 1,616 swabs for the presence of B. Diphtheria were examined at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Hatherton Road.

All other Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Birmingham University.

### **Chemical Work**

All chemical analyses are carried out by the Public Analyst, and for particulars of the work done during the year reference should be made to his report at the end of this volume.

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICERS' SUPERANNUATION ACT**

Under this Act all employees have to pass a medical examination before being taken on the permanent staff.

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Referee for the Corporation.

During the year 125 persons were examined prior to their appointment, and were passed as satisfactory lives.

### **OTHER MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

One hundred and twenty-four employees were examined on behalf of the Transport Committee as to their fitness to act as 'Bus Drivers or Conductors, this being a considerable increase on the numbers examined in previous years.

### **CARE OF THE BLIND**

There are 164 blind persons on the register of the Blind for the County Borough of Walsall. Of that number, seven are school children under the age of 16, all of whom are in special schools. Ten adults are in various institutions, and 112 persons are unemployable; of the others, 21 are employed in the workshops, two are in training, four are employed as homeworkers, and two are on the staff of the institution.

Certain of the arrangements for looking after the interests of the blind persons are carried out by the Blind Persons Welfare Committee, or on their behalf by the Walsall, Wednesbury and District Society for the Blind, and the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind.

Twenty-one of our Walsall Blind are employed in the new workshops, situated in Hatherton Road, which were opened in 1935. There,

work can be carried out under ideal conditions, the new workrooms being well ventilated and well lighted, presenting a striking contrast with the old, unhealthy workshops so long occupied by the blind. The new workshops are administered by a joint committee, consisting of representatives appointed by the Borough Council, the Staffordshire County Council and the Walsall, Wednesbury and District Blind Society.

Home workers are dealt with by the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind. During 1938 there were two home teachers, who looked after all blind persons in both the Walsall and Wednesbury areas.

### **UNEMPLOYABLE BLIND**

The Town Council augment the income of each of 88 unemployable persons in the Borough who are of full age to 22s. 6d. per week. The Home Visitors have been instructed when distributing this grant to enquire if they are as reasonably comfortable as possible, and if conditions are unsatisfactory to report the same to the local Blind Society and the Blind Persons Welfare Committee. It is the aim of the Blind Persons Welfare Committee to prevent any further cases of unemployable blind finding it requisite to have out-door poor relief, as it is undesirable to add to their distress by the so-called stigma of pauperism.

### **CHILDREN**

An innovation is the week's holiday at the sea in August for all blind children in the Borough of school age. This is provided and supervised by the local Blind Society.

### **DEPENDENTS OF BLIND PERSONS**

Under the Blind Persons Act, 1938, the responsibility for dependents of blind persons is removed from the Public Assistance Committee and is undertaken by the Blind Society on behalf of the Blind Persons Welfare Committee.



## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### Goscote Isolation Hospital.

Another busy year has been experienced at the Isolation Hospital, 592 cases having been admitted as against 651 during the previous year. The total number of patient days was 18,234, representing an average daily number of 50 beds occupied out of a total of 60 beds provided. The average duration of stay of all patients who were discharged or died during the year was approximately four and a half weeks.

268 cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted as against 316 in the previous year, and 220 cases of Diphtheria as against 221.

There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever, which has been generally of a mild type, the principal complications noted being adenitis and otitis.

As in previous years we have had admitted a large number of very severe cases of Diphtheria, more particularly from the surrounding districts, and there were 14 deaths representing a case mortality of 63.7 per 1,000 cases admitted, 11 of these deaths were in patients admitted from outside the borough. Eight cases of laryngeal diphtheria were admitted, and in 5 of these it was necessary to perform "tracheotomy" on admission, 3 of the cases died within 24 hours of admission, 1 within 3 days, the other case recovering.

Nine cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis were admitted, 8 of these from outside the borough, one patient who was acutely ill on admission died within 3 days : of the others, all with one exception—a child with very extensive paralysis—made good progress, and after continuation of treatment had been arranged for, were discharged to their own homes. The other child was transferred, after a stay of three months, to another hospital nearer her own home.

11 cases of Whooping Cough complicated with broncho-pneumonia in 5 cases were admitted and there were 2 deaths. 21 cases of Tonsillitis (non-diphtheritic), 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia, 1 of Erysipelas, 8 of Measles, 18 Diphtheria Carriers and 35 of other diseases were admitted.



The Tuberculosis Pavilion has again been fully occupied throughout the year, 49 patients being admitted during the year. 39 patients were discharged and 10 died, leaving 22 patients in the pavilion at the end of the year.

A table dealing with the cases treated at the Isolation Hospital will be found at the end of this section of the report.

**Smallpox.**—No cases were notified.

**Scarlet Fever.**—296 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, as against 442 in 1937. 185 cases were admitted to Goscote Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths.

**Diphtheria.**—121 cases were notified throughout the year, compared with 175 in 1937. The cases were fairly evenly distributed throughout the town.

There were 3 deaths from the disease as against 10 in 1937, a case mortality of 2.5% for Walsall cases as against 5.7% in 1937.

118 cases and 15 carriers were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

The average yearly incidence of the disease during the past five years has been 1.00 per 1,000.

During the year a further 894 children were immunised against the disease. In addition, 684 children who had been immunised in previous years were Schick-tested; in 667 immunity had been established and of the others 16 received further treatment.

13,274 adults and children have now been dealt with, and 10,705 have been protected against the disease. During the eleven years we have been immunising children, there have been no deaths and only 11 cases of clinical diphtheria amongst immunised children under the age of 15 years. In the same period amongst unprotected children of like age there have been 1038 cases and 101 deaths.

Further details relating to diphtheria immunisation will be found in my report as School Medical Officer to the Education Committee.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**—7 cases were notified, and there was 1 death.

**Dysentery.**—1 case was notified.

**Influenza and Pneumonia.**—During the year 242 cases of Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal or Primary in type were notified, as against 242 in 1937 and 218 in 1936. There were 116 deaths due to this cause, as against 113 in 1937, 92 in 1936 and 107 in 1935, a death rate of 1.08 per 1,000 as against 1.06 in 1937, 0.86 in 1936 and 1.01 in 1935.

There were 27 deaths from Influenza. Of the deaths from Pneumonia 34 were in children under the age of 5 years and 39 in persons over the age of 45 years.

**Enteric Fever.**—No cases were notified.

**Measles.**—175 cases of Measles were notified from the schools during the year, as against 786 in the previous year.

There was 1 death from Measles during the year.

**Mumps.**—284 cases of Mumps were notified from the schools during the year.

**Whooping Cough.**—261 cases of Whooping Cough were notified from the schools during the year, against 83 cases notified in 1937.

There were 8 deaths from Whooping Cough during the year, all being in children under the age of 5 years.

**Chicken Pox.**—125 cases were notified from the schools during the year.

## CANCER

Facilities exist at the Manor (Municipal) Hospital for the treatment of Cancer by means of surgical treatment, superficial and medium X-ray therapy. Arrangements also exist for the transference of patients to Birmingham General Hospital for radium treatment.

An arrangement exists between the Walsall General (Voluntary) Hospital and Mount Vernon Hospital for the transference of inoperable cases of carcinoma of the larynx.

The following Table shows the Deaths from Cancer during 1938, and the parts of the Body affected

	Under 35		35—45		45—55		55—65		65—75		75 & over		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cancer of the buccal cavity and pharynx .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	1	—	6	1
Cancer of the digestive organs and peritoneum ..	—	—	3	—	3	3	8	16	9	9	6	5	29	33
Cancer of the respiratory organs .. ..	—	—	2	—	2	—	6	4	1	—	—	—	11	4
Cancer of the uterus .. ..	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	4	—	2	—	1	—	12
Cancer of other female genital organs .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	5
Cancer of the breast .. ..	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	5	—	4	—	2	—	15
Cancer of the male genito-urinary organs .. ..	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	2	—	1	—	11	—
Cancer of the skin .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of other or unspecified organs .. ..	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	5	7
TOTALS .. ..	—	—	5	4	10	11	20	32	18	20	9	10	62	77

## ISOLATION HOSPITALS

VII.—Showing cases admitted, deaths, case fatality rate, duration of stay, and percentage of cases isolated.

Diseases	No. of cases notified	No. of cases admitted			Deaths			Mortality rate per 1,000 cases admitted	Total No. of patient days in 1938	Average duration of stay (weeks) of patients discharged or died	Percentage of notified cases isolated
		Walsall	Other Districts	Total	Walsall	Other Districts	Total				
Smallpox .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria .. ..	121	118	102	220	3	11	14	63.6	8274	5.3	97.5%
+Contacts .. ..	—	15	3	18	—	—	—	—	394	3.2	—
Scarlet Fever .. ..	296	185	83	268	—	—	—	—	7966	4.2	62.5%
Measles .. ..	—	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	115	2.0	—
Erysipelas .. ..	41	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	11	1.4	2.4%
Enteric Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases .. ..	—	58	19	77	4	2	6	77.9	1474	3.0	—
Total .. ..	—	385	207	592	7	13	20	33.8	18234	4.4	—



## MUNICIPAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The following additions and extensions at the Manor Hospital noted in previous reports were completed during the year.

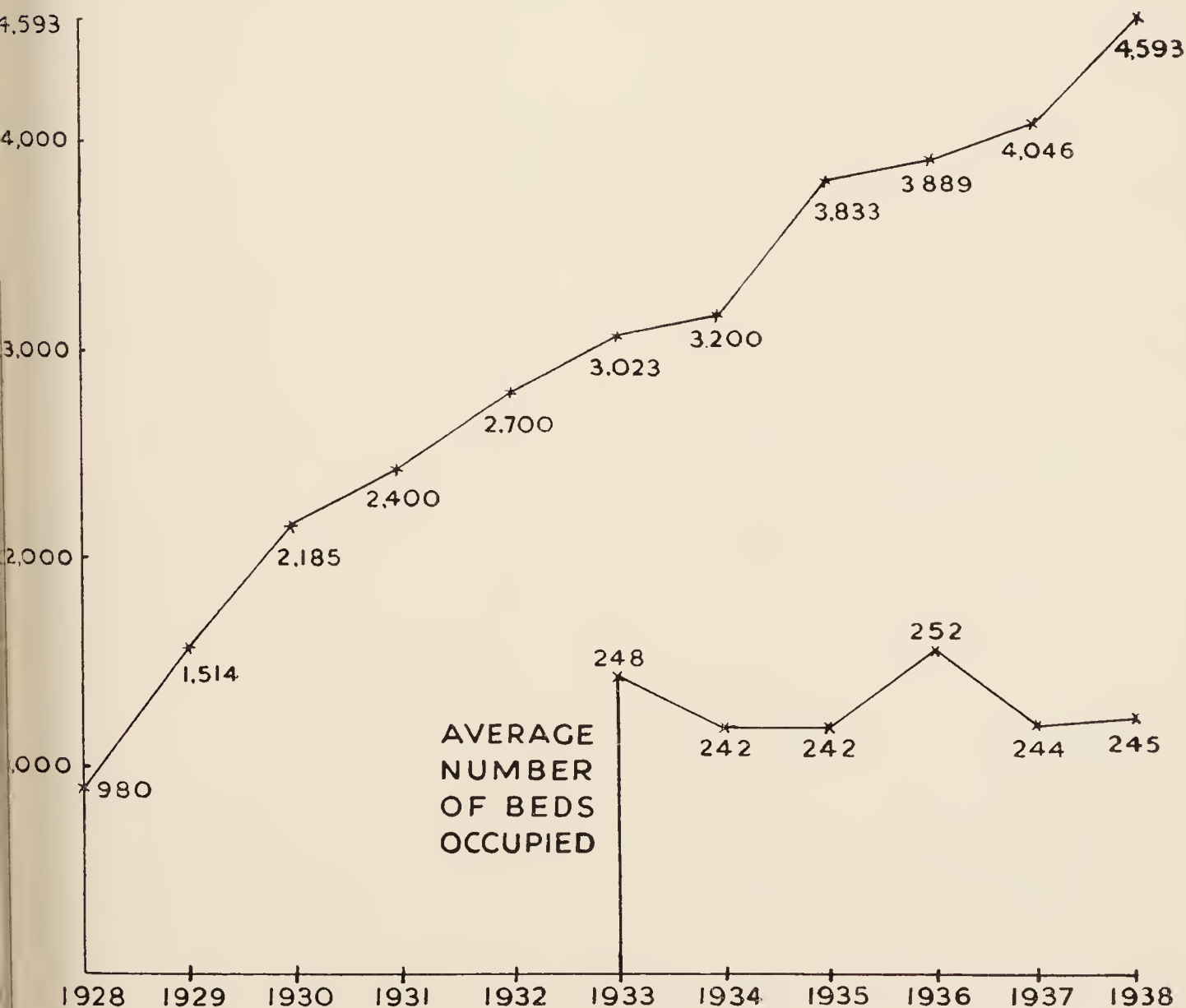
The Venereal Diseases Clinic came into full use on 1st April.

The extensions to the Nurses' Home described in my last year's report were finally completed in May.

The Maternity Block was not out of the hands of the contractors at the end of the year, but it was finally completed at the beginning of March, the opening ceremony, which was performed by Councillor A. J. Stanley, Chairman of the Health Committee, taking place on 16th March, 1939. The block was immediately thereafter brought into use.

The following is the report upon the work of the Hospital for the year, 1937, submitted by Mr. E. S. Clayton, the Medical Superintendent :

"The number of admissions to Hospital has continued to rise and the rate of increase has been greater than for several years as the following graph shows :-



The fact that the average beds occupied is 245 does not give a correct impression of the state of the Hospital. The great variation in the type of work done renders classification most necessary, and overcrowding has been experienced during the winter months in most departments, which have to function as separate units.

The opening of the new Maternity Block will relieve pressure, we hope, in both the Womens' Medical and Surgical Wards into which maternity patients have had to over flow.

A further great increase has occurred in Out-Patient and Casualty work. The total attendances have increased from 28,144 to 35,115.

An additional 230 operations have been performed."

### STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1938

Total admissions	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,593
Patients in Hospital on 1st January, 1938	..	..					231
							<hr/>
Total Inpatients	..	..	..	..			4,824
							<hr/>

#### Accommodation

Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	130
Women	..	..	..	..	..	..	121
Children	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
							<hr/>
							303
							<hr/>

Average number of beds occupied	245
Highest number of beds occupied	289 on 13th May, 1938
Lowest number of beds occupied	193 on 8th August, 1938
Surgical department	.. .. 1,271 operations
Dental department	.. .. 858 operations

#### Maternity Department

Births	..	..	..	..	..	496
Stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	21
Doctor present at	..	..	..	..		128 deliveries
Forceps	..	..	..	..	..	18
Caesarean Section	..	..	..	..	..	9
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	4

*Delivered in Hospital.*

1. Pulmonary oedema due to asthma.
2. Heart failure due to lobar pneumonia complicated by labour.
3. Pulmonary embolus.

*Delivered before Admission.*

4. Retained placenta.

**Massage and Electrical Department**

Treatments given :

Massage	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,536
Electrical	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,673
Radiant Heat	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,628
Ultra Violet Light	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,308
							9,145

**X-Ray Department**

Number of films taken	..	..	..	..	..	3,838
Number of screen examinations	..	..	..	..	..	358
Pathology and Bio-chemistry specimens sent to Birmingham University, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	888

**Outpatients and Casualties**

Total attendances	..	..	..	..	..	35,115
Total number of deaths during year	..	..	..	..	..	480

**MEDICAL RELIEF AND VACCINATION DISTRICTS**

The Borough is divided into four districts for the purpose of Medical Relief and Vaccination, each District being in charge of private medical practitioners appointed for this work.

The following are the Districts :

District.	Medical Relief.	Vaccination.
No. 1—Bloxwich, Leamore and Harden Wards .. .. .	Dr. C. J. Lewis.	Dr. M. B. Baines.
No. 2—Birchills and Pleck Wards ..	Dr. J. Drury.	Dr. G. W. J. Baker.
No. 3—Hatherton and Paddock Wards	Dr. J. F. O'Meara.	Dr. J. F. O'Meara.
No. 4—Bridge, Caldmore and Palfrey Wards .. .. .	Dr. D. A. Llewellyn.	Dr. A. J. Harden.

## VENEREAL DISEASES.

On 1st April, 1938, the Venereal Diseases Clinic was transferred from the Walsall General Hospital, where it had been conducted since the inception of the scheme, to a new *ad hoc* clinic which had been built in the grounds of the Manor Hospital. The clinic is under the charge of Dr. F. J. Welton, Chief Assistant Medical Officer, who was appointed Consultant on Venereal Diseases.

The new clinic is built on modern lines, is commodious and the arrangements are such as to facilitate the work of a busy clinic.

With the transfer certain alterations were made in the times of attendances. Evening clinics for males are now held on Mondays and Thursdays, and afternoon clinics for females on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Provision is made for regular daily treatment where necessary, the necessary male and female staff being in attendance each day. Provision is also made for inpatient treatment.

At the beginning of the year 103 patients were under treatment, one old case returned for treatment during the year, 101 patients attended for the first time, and 9 were transferred from other centres.

Of the new cases 79 (or 79%) were diagnosed as suffering from venereal disease, 32 were found to be not suffering from venereal disease. The total number of attendances was 3436 (1978 for examination by the Medical Officer, and 1458 for intercurrent treatment.)

Examinations of specimens for gonococci both cultural and direct smears, are undertaken by the Venereal Diseases Officer. Other examinations are carried out at County Laboratory, Stafford, or at Birmingham University.

Arrangements remained in force up to the end of March for the admission of women and girls suffering from venereal disease to the Cleveland House, Wolverhampton. Since the transfer of the clinic to the Manor Hospital it has not been necessary to avail ourselves of this arrangement.

The following is a summary of the work carried out at both the Walsall General Hospital and at the new clinic during 1938.



TABLE SHOWING THE WORK OF THE VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC DURING THE YEAR 1938.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancres		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		Totals		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on Register 1st January, 1938	35	17	—	—	37	11	—	3	72	31	103
Number of old cases returned for treatment or observation of same infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Number of new cases dealt with for the first time	17	16	—	—	27	9	27	5	71	30	101
Number of new cases transferred from other centres	—	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	9	—	9
Total cases dealt with	53	33	—	—	72	20	28	8	153	61	214
Attendances—Medical examinations	629	403	—	—	696	143	72	35	1397	581	1978
Irrigation, dressings	—	—	—	—	1101	253	53	51	1154	304	1458
Total attendances	629	403	—	—	1797	396	125	86	2551	885	3436
Patients admitted to hospital	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	5	1	6
“In-patient days”	93	—	—	—	95	2	—	—	188	2	190
Walsall persons treated at Centres in other towns	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Number of new cases attending during 1938—	25	8	—	—	22	14	24	—	—	—	71
Walsall	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	30
Staffordshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pathological Work—	Microscopical		Cultural for Gonorrhoea		Serum		Cerebro- Spinal Fluid		Others		
Specimens examined at Walsall Clinic											
Specimens examined at approved laboratories	10	—	79	—	—	154	—	—	—	—	—

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## WATER

Mr. Fred J. Dixon, Engineer in Chief of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, has kindly prepared the following report on the supply of water to the Borough for the year:—

“No new sources of supply have been brought into use for the supply to the Borough during the past year. An ammonia and chlorine plant has been installed at Shenstone Pumping Station as a precautionary measure, and is giving satisfactory results.

“The supply has been satisfactorily maintained both as to quality and quantity.

“The quality of the water is controlled by bacteriological and chemical sampling, samples being taken at monthly intervals from different points within the Borough. Analyses of these samples have been satisfactory throughout the year.

“Statement of Extensions to Water Mains carried out during the Year.

LOCALITY	EXTENSION OF MAINS IN YARDS				
	3" Main.	4" Main.	6" Main.	9" Main.	
Goscote Housing Site .. .. .	—	386	—	—	
Goscote Lane, Rushall .. .. .	—	—	91	—	
Harden Road, Blakenall .. .. .	—	7	477	—	
Green Rock Lane and Goscote Lane .. .. .	—	69	508	—	*
Green Rock Lane Housing Site .. .. .	123	359	82	—	
Barracks Lane, Blakenall .. .. .	—	—	272	101	*
Well Lane, Blakenall .. .. .	—	—	280	—	*
Field Road, Bloxwich .. .. .	—	—	327	—	*
Stoney Lane, Bloxwich .. .. .	—	60	—	—	
Samuel Street, Bloxwich .. .. .	—	98	—	—	
Cul de Sac off Lichfield Rd., Bloxwich .. .. .	57	—	—	—	
Cul de Sac off Old Lane, Bloxwich .. .. .	81	—	—	—	
Millfield Avenue, Bloxwich .. .. .	—	121	—	—	
Smithfield Road, Bloxwich .. .. .	—	78	—	—	
Cul de Sac off Walker Rd., Blakenall .. .. .	104	—	—	—	
Cul de Sac off Dartmouth Avenue .. .. .	94	—	—	—	
Mill Place Site off Coalpool Lane .. .. .	61	—	—	—	
Brockhurst Crescent .. .. .	—	85	—	—	
Aldridge Road .. .. .	—	—	349	—	
Woodland Avenue .. .. .	—	24	—	—	
Bell Road, Lodge Road and Beacon Road .. .. .	89	342	—	—	
Walstead Road, Yew Tree Park Estate .. .. .	—	70	—	—	
Three Crowns Hill, Sutton Road .. .. .	—	137	—	—	
TOTAL LENGTHS .. .. .	609	1,836	2,386	101	

“The extensions marked with an asterisk were carried out by arrangement with the Walsall Corporation, in order to improve the supply in the vicinity of the Goscote Isolation Hospital. A considerable improvement in the conditions of supply was observed after the various works had been completed.”

#### SAMPLES

During the year the Sampling Officer took the following samples of water for bacteriological examination, viz. :—

Well Water	..	..	..	..	..	4
Spring Water	..	..	..	..	..	1
South Staffordshire Tap Water				..	..	1

One private person submitted two samples of tap water for analysis for the presence of lead. The Public Analyst reported that neither sample revealed any contamination by lead.

The Bacteriologist reported as follows on the Well, Spring and Tap Water samples submitted by the Sampling Officer :—

1. (1938) Presence of a high colony count at 20°C. which is undesirable in a good potable water and suggests that the well requires thoroughly cleaning out.
2. (1938) Does not show any evidence of present or recent pollution with sewage or manure. The findings do not render the water unsafe for human consumption in its present state, but if it is used as a supply it should be carefully watched and controlled by regular analyses.
3. (1938) The findings indicate that the water is bacteriologically a good water and is safe for human consumption in its present state.
15. (1938) From the same source as No. 1 (1938). Satisfactory sample. No remarks are appended to this report.
16. (1938) From the same well as No. 2 (1938).  
The findings do not show any evidence of contamination with organisms indicative of sewage or manurial pollution. In its present state, therefore, this water cannot be condemned as unsafe for human consumption. There is, however, an undesirably high colony count for a good potable



water. I would suggest that while this supply is being distributed as drinking water, regular bacterial analyses at frequent intervals are desirable as a control.

17. (1938) Satisfactory sample. This sample was from a tap water.

Sample No. 15 (1938), taken from the same source as Sample No. 1 (1938), implies that the water is sound and fit for human consumption.

The result of the analysis of Sample No. 16 (1938), taken from the same source as Sample No. 2 (1938), was carefully considered, and written instructions were given to the persons using the well to boil all water before use for cooking or drinking purposes.

During the year one well, the water in which was unsatisfactory, was filled in and dispensed with. The two houses which previously used this well as a supply were connected to the S.S.W.W. mains which became available.

There are only 30 houses in the Borough dependent on wells or springs for their water supplies.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

I have been supplied by Mr. M. E. Habershon, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, with the following information on the Drainage, Sewerage, Rivers and Streams in the Borough.

### (a) BROCKHURST DISPOSAL WORKS, BESCOT.

During 1938, extensions to the works costing about £50,000 were practically completed and have now been brought into use. This work should effect a considerable improvement in the River Tame below the Works.

(N.B. The work referred to includes the provision of 11 new filter beds, new humus tanks capable of dealing with the whole of the sewage flowing into the works, sludge digestion tanks, and other incidental works as reported in the Annual Report for 1937. These Disposal Works are now capable of dealing with the estimated increase in flow of sewage for the next ten years.)

### (b) WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD SEWERAGE SCHEME.

In Wolverhampton Road a relief sewer varying from 12" to 27" diameter is under construction from James Bridge to Alum Well Road to prevent flooding in the Parkbrook area in times of heavy rain.



(c) RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The eastern branch of the River Tame has been cleaned out and deepened during 1938, from Wallows Lane to Corporation Street West.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

Mr. C. N. Graddon, Cleansing Superintendent, has supplied the following report :—

**REFUSE COLLECTION.** During the year over 1,000 premises were added to the collection list and the total number of bins now collected is over 31,000 per week.

As the main change-over from horse to mechanical transport took place some 7-8 years ago, the mechanical vehicles purchased then have now reached the end of their useful life. They have been replaced by five of a new type of Freighter with a larger capacity of 13 cubic yards. This has necessitated the re-organisation of the collection rounds.

**REFUSE DISPOSAL.** The Department has just completed the filling in of an old pit working of considerable depth at Goscote. Commenced over a year ago, this work has necessitated considerable supervision due to the dangers to vehicles and men arising from the consolidation of the refuse in the water. The completion of the work, however, means that the hitherto dangerous pool has now been made safe.

**STREET CLEANSING.** The work has proceeded on similar lines to last year, with additional tricycle rounds and a concentration on those parts of the Borough which are subject to a large amount of refuse due to the vagaries of the wind.

**CONVENIENCES.** Two additional Conveniences have been built, one at Bradford Place, the other at the Central Bus Station. Both provide accommodation for Men's and Womens's W.C's., together with washing facilities.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There is only an exceptionally small percentage of houses in the town not served with water closets fitted with flushing cisterns. These houses have either privies, waste water closets, pail closets, or hand-flushed closets. There are no closets of the privy or pail type (conservancy system) in any populous or closely built centre, and they are only in existence in districts where there is not available an adequate

and sufficient water supply or sewer. Many of the properties where privies, pail closets or hand-flushed closets form the closet accommodation, are properties which have been or will be subject of action under the Housing Act, and will in time be demolished.

Particulars of closets converted to water closets, new water closets erected, etc., will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

### 1. The Nature and Number of Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Report submitted under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935

NUMBER OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS								
Housing Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	960
Housing Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	725
Additional Visits on Housing (Clearance Areas)					..	..	..	8,997
District Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,078
Re-inspections of Nuisances under Notice				..	..	..	..	5,365
Overcrowding under Housing Act, 1936	..			..	..	..	..	2,563
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	239
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	144
Infected Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,485
Houses Fumigated or Sprayed			..	..	..	..	..	431
Houses-let-in-lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,519
Rat Repression	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	435
Drain Tests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63
Canal Boats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Theatres and Cinemas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Swimming Baths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Schools re Drainage and Sanitary Conveniences	..			..	..	..	..	24
Shops under the Shops Act, 1934			..	..	..	..	..	635
Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	511
Ice Cream Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	115
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	212
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,540
Private Premises where slaughtering of animals has been carried out	..							34
Butchers Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,947
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173
Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	469
Markets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	409
Samples under Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, for analysis								225
Samples, Milk for Bacteria Count	..	..	..	..	..			17

Samples, Milk for Methylene Blue Test	..	..	..	..	..	31
Samples, Milk for Phosphatase Test	..	..	..	..	..	11
Samples, Water for Drinking or for Swimming Baths				..	..	21
Samples, Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	..	..	..	..	..	7
Samples, Air	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sundries	..	..	..	..	..	68
Total visits and inspections						41,607

## 2. The Number of Notices Served during the Year

Informal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,084
Statutory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	314

## 3. Results of Service of such Notices

Number of Nuisances and other Insanitary Conditions abated	..	1,351
* Notices not complied with at 31st December, 1938	..	317

\* The majority are informal notices.

## SHOPS ACT, 1934

### SECTION 10.—ARRANGEMENTS FOR HEALTH AND COMFORT OF SHOP WORKERS. PROVISIONS AS TO SANITARY OR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS IN SHOPS.

When this Act came into operation, the Council delegated to the Health Committee control of sanitary arrangements, heating and ventilation: the provisions of the section with regard to lighting, washing facilities, and provision of facilities for meals, were delegated to the Property Committee and dealt with by the Shops Act Inspectors. As the result of an arrangement made by the officials, it was agreed that this section be delegated jointly to the Health and Property Committees, and the officials have agreed that the Health Department now deal with the provisions as to ventilation, temperature, sanitary conveniences, lighting and washing facilities, the Shops Act Inspectors dealing with facilities for the taking of meals, and it is found that this arrangement is working very satisfactorily.

A large number of premises were visited during the year, and informal action has resulted in many improvements being effected.

OFFICES. Inspections of Office accommodation are proceeding, particularly with respect to offices attached to factories where inspections are being made under the Factories Act, 1937.



By arrangement with the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, plans of proposed new shops and offices are now examined by the Health Department with a view to the requirements of the Shops Act and the Public Health Acts being satisfactorily complied with.

### CAMPING SITES

There are no camping sites within the area of the local authority.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT

Forty observations of industrial chimneys have been made. Smoke in such quantity as to be a nuisance was detected at factories on four occasions. The firms concerned were given notice and improvements in conditions have been noted. In no case was it necessary to issue a statutory notice. So far as possible, the co-operation of occupiers of factories is sought, and informal action has resulted in considerable improvement. In one case particularly there was a serious nuisance caused by deposits of soot from a certain factory's stacks: the factory owner had technical advice, and after certain adjustments had been made to the plant the nuisance was satisfactorily abated and has not recurred.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The following table shows the results of the analyses of rain water collected by a glass deposit gauge, which is fixed in the grounds of the Goscote Isolation Hospital.

1938.			Rainfall in inches.	Solids Collected. Tons per Square Mile		
				Total Insoluble.	Total Soluble.	Total Solids.
January	..	..	2.7458	9.82	9.72	19.54
February	..	..	0.6422	8.62	3.98	12.60
March	..	..	0.7439	5.04	5.64	10.68
April	..	..	0.0477	5.80	1.79	7.59
May	..	..	1.4164	1.99	3.84	5.83
June	..	..	2.3762	3.98	12.60	16.58
July	..	..	2.0839	1.99	6.96	8.95
August	..	..	2.8159	5.97	12.67	18.64
September	..	..	1.3900	1.00	3.98	4.98
October	..	..	2.4006	1.16	7.63	8.79
November	..	..	2.3590	17.91	7.57	25.48
December	..	..	2.5077	32.18	16.92	49.10
Year 1938	..	..	21.5293	95.46	93.30	188.76
Year 1937	..	..	17.0928	51.83	59.19	111.02
Average Monthly Rainfall .. .. .				1937	1938	
Average Monthly Deposit per Square Mile .. .. .				1.4244 inches.	1.7941 inches.	
				9.251 tons.	15.73 tons.	



The tables indicate that an increasing amount of solids is being collected by the gauge. In 1936 the average monthly deposit per square mile was 10.847 tons, and in 1937 9.251 tons, whereas in 1938 the figure has risen to 15.73 tons. There are many factors which have to be taken into account which may give rise to this increase of solids collected, but it does appear that the building up of the district surrounding the gauge—mainly on the Harden North, Coalpool and Goscote sites—is having the effect of increasing atmospheric pollution in this area. It will be interesting to compare the results in following years.

It is felt that consideration should be given to the establishment of an additional rain water gauge in the central area of the town, and investigations are proceeding with a view to obtaining the use of a satisfactory site.

#### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The following particulars show what has been done during the year with regard to the eradication of bed bugs. The form in which the information is set out is as required by the Minister of Health.

Number of Houses found to be infested :

(i) Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	830
(ii) Other Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	107

Number of Houses Disinfested :

(i) Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	830
(ii) Other Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	107

The following is a brief summary of the methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs.

Disinfestation of ordinary privately-owned houses and Council houses has been effected by the use of proprietary insecticides, but it is not possible to say that the method of disinfestation which has been adopted up to now is always really efficient. During the year experiments have been taking place with the use of washed heavy naphtha, and while at the moment not a great number of houses have been dealt with, the results so far obtained are very encouraging. It would appear that at last there is a method which can be adopted, which, if used by careful, trained operatives, will give a large measure of satisfaction without the risks attached to the use of hydrogen cyanide in houses.

When dealing with condemned houses, those which have been included in Compulsory Purchase Orders are demolished by the Corporation, and great care is taken to see that all infested woodwork and other materials are burnt and destroyed on the site of the demolitions. Every endeavour is made to prevent any possible spread of bug infestation through the dissemination of infected woodwork from such houses.

During the year a scheme was instituted to deal with the effects of tenants removed from unfit houses into Council houses. Owing to the large number of Council houses available when the scheme was first operated, a contractor was engaged. During this contractor's period of service to the Corporation, a staff of men were trained in the use of hydrogen cyanide gas. A specially constructed van was obtained, and the work of removal, gassing and delivery of furniture to the new Council houses, is now proceeding very smoothly. A trained Sanitary Inspector is now in charge of the disinfestation section of the Health Department. All the work of disinfestation is now undertaken by the local Authority. It is being found possible to allow this staff to undertake works of disinfestation at privately-owned houses, for which owners pay the cost to the Corporation, and this arrangement is working very satisfactorily. All clothing and bedding is passed through the steam disinfector.

The disinfestation staff are now carrying out very useful work in the supervision or education of tenants with respect to preventing infestation, or reinfestation after cleansing. Numbers of visits are made, and the best possible advice is given to tenants with respect to this matter. It is pleasing to be able to report that follow-up visits to those families whose effects have been cleansed and disinfested, show that a remarkably high standard of cleanliness is being maintained, the standard generally being very much higher than that of tenants who were rehoused without any satisfactory works of disinfestation having been carried out.

It is evident that disinfestation, while it may appear to be a heavy charge, is most necessary, and will improve health conditions and conditions of cleanliness generally on the Corporation estates, and also in some measure improve conditions in privately-owned houses.

### SWIMMING BATHS

PUBLIC.—There are five publicly-owned swimming baths in the Borough, three of which are enclosed and two open. The two open-

air baths and one of the enclosed baths have chlorine filtration plants. At the central public baths there are two baths—one first class and one second class, and during the winter months the second class bath is in use as a brine bath. Considerable works of modernisation have been carried out at these premises during the year, including the installation of an ozone sterilisation plant for the principal bath and additional chlorine filters to deal with the second class bath: as an emergency measure both baths can be dealt with by the chlorine filtration plant.

PRIVATE.—There is only one privately-owned swimming bath in the Borough: it is an open-air bath, and owing to the very unsatisfactory weather experienced during the summer of 1938, the bath was not opened to the public.

The weather also effected the use of the two publicly-owned open-air baths.

#### SAMPLES FROM SWIMMING BATHS

During the year 12 samples of bath water were taken at the central baths, one from the Bloxwich Baths, and one each from the two publicly-owned open air-baths. In the main the samples proved to be satisfactory, but where unsatisfactory samples were obtained immediate investigations were made and further samples were found to be satisfactory.

#### SCHOOLS

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health as presented to the Education Committee contains all information relating to Schools.

**REPORT on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on the 1st July, 1938).**

#### 1.—INSPECTIONS

##### MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power ..	152	27	—
Factories without mechanical power ..	87	10	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises) .. .. .	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	239	37	—



## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars	Number of Defects			No. of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness .. .. .	5	5	—	—
Overcrowding .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient .. .. .	6	4	—	—
Unsuitable or defective .. .. .	19	17	—	—
Not seporate for sexes .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other offences .. .. .	7	7	—	—
Total .. .. .	37	33	—	—

## ACTS, BYELAWS, REGULATIONS, RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH WORK

The following is a list of the principal Acts of Parliament and Local Acts relating to Public Health, which were delegated to the Committee at the end of the year 1938, viz. :—

### THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

- Part II. Sanitation and Buildings (Sections 23, 24, 27, 34, 39-52, 56, 74, 75, 79-86 and 88-89);
- Part III. \* Nuisances and Offensive Trades (except the power to make Byelaws as to smoke respecting new buildings);
- Part IV. Water Supply (Sections 111, 124 and 137-141);
- Part V. Prevention, Notification and Treatment of Disease;
- Part VI. Hospitals, Nursing Homes, etc.
- Part VII. Notification of Births, Maternity and Child Welfare and Infant Life Protection;
- Part VIII. Baths, Washhouses, Bathing Places, etc. (Section 233);
- Part IX. Common Lodging Houses;
- Part X. Canal Boats;
- Part XI. Miscellaneous;



Part XII. General (such sections as refer to the powers delegated above); Sections 23, 24, 27, 34, 43, 74, 75, 88, 137 and 259 to 264 are administered jointly with the Public Works Committee.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

BYELAWS FOR THE REGULATION OF SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1907, SECTIONS 53 AND 54.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (REGULATIONS AS TO FOOD) ACT, 1907.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.

THE MILK ACT, 1934 (SECTION 10).

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTIONS 71 AND 72.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

THE ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929 (until the 1st October, 1939).

THE RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

THE FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

THE MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.

THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING AND MARKING) ACT, 1928.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929, SECTION 2(B) (functions of Poor Law Authorities relating to vaccination).

THE RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS (AMENDMENT) ACTS 1933-38 (so far as they relate to the sanitary condition of houses).

THE SHOPS ACT, 1934, SECTION 10, (jointly with the Property Committee).

THE HOUSING ACT, 1936, Part II (repair, maintenance and sanitary condition of houses), Part III (clearance and re-development), Part IV (abatement of overcrowding), Section 91 (allowances for repairs), and such of the provisions of Parts VII and VIII of the Act and of any other Act relating to the housing of the working classes as are ancillary thereto.

THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY ACT, 1937, (so far as it relates to the powers and duties of Local Authorities).

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 (so far as any sanitary provisions thereunder are to be administered by the Council).

THE AGRICULTURE ACT, 1937, and

THE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938,

(so far as they relate to provisions as to tuberculosis in cattle which are to be administered by a Local Authority).

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, with the exception of Part IV and Sections 44 to 56 in Part V (as from 1st October, 1939).

THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1890, so far as it relates to sanitary provisions and matters of a similar nature.

THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1914, SECTIONS 84, 88 and 89 (streets, buildings, sewers and drains and sanitary provisions), and jointly with the Public Works Committee, Section 85.

THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1925, SECTIONS 41 to 45 inclusive.

THE WALSALL CORPORATION ACT, 1930, SECTIONS 106 AND 107.

THE MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902 TO 1936.

THE MIDWIVES AND MATERNITY HOMES ACT, 1926.

THE WIDOWS', ORPHANS AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS ACT, 1936.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929, SECTION 2 (a) (functions of Poor Law Authorities in respect of infant life protection), and SECTION 101 (contributions by Councils to Voluntary Associations in respect of maternity and child welfare).

All Orders, Regulations, Schemes or Byelaws made under any such Acts.

So much of any other existing Act of Parliament or any statutory modification or re-enactment of any Act of Parliament as relates to any of the said matters and any Orders, Regulations, Schemes or Byelaws made under any of the above-mentioned Acts.

### LECTURES ON HEALTH MATTERS

During the year a number of addresses were delivered to various clubs, societies, etc., by members of the staff of the Health Department, the following being the more important.

DATE.	SUBJECT.	CLUB, SOCIETY, ETC.	SPEAKER.
1938.			
Jan. 3rd.	Food Protection.	Bloxwich Co-operative Women's Guild	Mr. Stansbury.
Jan. 12th.	Problems of the Unfit House.	Bloxwich Toc H.	Mr. Stansbury.
Feb. 3rd.	Housing Act, 1936 Re-conditioning.	Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Society, Birmingham.	Mr. Stansbury.
April 27th.	Food Protection.	Bloxwich Toc. H.	Mr. Stansbury.
May 6th.	Diet and Physical Fitness	League of Nations Youth Group.	Mr. E. S. Clayton.
May 13th.	Food Protection.	Walsall Toc H.	Mr. Stansbury.
June 24th.	The Duties of a Sanitary Inspector.	Walsall Rotary Club.	Mr. Stansbury.
Sept. 29th.	Child Hygiene	Hillary Street Senior Parents Club.	Mrs. Saunders.
Oct. 17th.	Citizens Part in the Health Service.	Vicarage Walk Optimists Society.	Dr. Clark.
Oct. 20th.	First Aid in the Home	St. Peters C. E. Parents Club.	Miss Betteridge.
Oct. 26th.	Tuberculosis.	Toc H.	Dr. Clark.

## HOUSING.

The following section details the action taken during the year under the Public Health and Housing Acts, in the forms required by the Ministry of Health.

### STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .	2,490
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	4,675
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .. .. .	960
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	1,685
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	269
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	765
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .. .. .	466
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. .. ..	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) by Owners .. .. .	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners ..	Nil

## (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. . 174

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(a) by Owners .. .. . 150

(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners .. Nil

## (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. . 25

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. . 30

## (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. . 7

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. .. . 7

## 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .. .. . 605

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein .. .. . 655

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein .. .. . 5,046

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. .. . 189

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. .. . 277

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases .. 2,235



- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding . . . . . Nil
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. . . . .

The "Appointed Day" under Sections 59, 60, 64 and 6 (2) of the Acts was fixed as January 1st, 1938, and under Section 62 as July 1st, 1937.

Of the 277 cases abated during the year, 127 families were rehoused in Council houses, the majority being families living in "unfit" houses.

Most of the 189 new cases of overcrowding have arisen by reason of children reaching the age of 1 or 10 years, and thereby causing the permitted number of persons for the dwelling to be exceeded.

At the first survey there were 1,291 recorded cases of overcrowding ; the total at 31st December, 1938, was 605 ; thus there has been a net decrease of 686 cases.

## CLEARANCE AREAS.

### Clearance Areas Represented in 1938.

During the year 12 Clearance Areas were represented containing 209 houses occupied by 741 persons. These were dealt with by the making of the following orders, viz.:—

Description.	Acreage.		No. of Houses.	No. of Persons.
	Acres.	Sq. yards.		
(1) The Walsall (Little Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1938 . .	1	508	51	199
(2) The Walsall (Butts Street) Clearance Order, 1938 . . . . .	1	2,388	63	216
(3) The Walsall (Teddlesley Street Terrace) Clearance Order, 1938 . .	—	1,189	12	41
(4) The Walsall (Rowley Street) Clearance Order, 1938 . . . . .	—	760	5	9
(5) The Walsall (Holtshill Lane) Clearance Order, 1938 . . . . .	—	1,918	18	64
(6) The Walsall (Bath Street No. 2) Clearance Order, 1938 . . . . .	—	2,053	11	7

	Description.	Acreage.		No. of Houses.	No. of Persons.
		Acres.	Sq. yards.		
(7)	The Walsall (Church Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1938 ..	—	568	3	23
(8)	The Walsall (Upper Hall Lane No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1938 .. .. .	—	1,989	17	66
(9)	The Walsall (Upper Hall Lane No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1938 .. .. .	—	973	10	42
(10)	The Walsall (Dudley Street No. 2) Clearance Order, 1938 .. ..	—	682	6	33
(11)	The Walsall (Dudley Street No. 3) Clearance Order, 1938 .. ..	—	1,646	9	41
(12)	The Walsall (Mountrath Street) Clearance Order, 1938 .. ..	—	769	4	—

Inquiries by Inspectors of the Ministry of Health were held during the year, viz. :—

On the 8th March, 1938, by P. A. Hopkins, Esq., O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., in respect of 14 orders, viz. :—

- (a) The Walsall (Field Road, Bloxwich No. 2) Clearance Order, 1937.
- (b) The Walsall (Walker Road No. 4) Clearance Order, 1937.
- (c) The Walsall (Orlando Street) Clearance Order, 1937.
- (d) The Walsall (Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (e) The Walsall (Field Road, Bloxwich No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (f) The Walsall (Sandbank, Bloxwich) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (g) The Walsall (Blakenall Heath No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (h) The Walsall (Blakenall Heath No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (i) The Walsall (Blakenall Heath No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (j) The Walsall (Walker Road No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (k) The Walsall (Walker Road No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.

- (*l*) The Walsall (Walker Road No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (*m*) The Walsall (Foster Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (*n*) The Walsall (Wolverhampton Road, Walsall) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.

On the 9th August, 1938, (*a*) (*g*) (*b*) (*i*) (*l*) and (*n*) with slight modifications, were confirmed by the Minister of Health.

On the 30th August, 1938, (*b*) (*c*) (*d*) (*e*) (*f*) (*j*) (*k*) and (*m*), with slight modifications, were confirmed by the Minister of Health.

On the 21st June, 1938, by W. T. Bowman, Esq., O.B.E., M.I. Struct.E. in respect of 9 orders, viz. :—

- (*o*) The Walsall (Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich) Clearance Order, 1937.
- (*p*) The Walsall (Penkridge Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1937.
- (*q*) The Walsall (Hall Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1937.
- (*r*) The Walsall (Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (*s*) The Walsall (Well Lane, Blakenall) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (*t*) The Walsall (Penkridge Street No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (*u*) The Walsall (Blue Lane West) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (*v*) The Walsall (Hall Street No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.
- (*w*) The Walsall (Vicarage Terrace) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937.

On the 14th September, 1938, (*o*) (*p*) (*q*) (*s*) (*t*) (*u*) (*v*) and (*w*) were confirmed by the Minister of Health.

With respect to (*r*), this order was subsequently dealt with by the Minister of Health by the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order and a Clearance Order, viz. :—

The Walsall (Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich No. 2) Clearance Order, 1938.

The Walsall (Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1938.

These Orders were confirmed by the Minister of Health on the 13th March, 1939, with slight modifications.

On the 11th October, 1938, by G. B. Bridgeman, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., in respect of 3 orders, viz. :—

(x) The Walsall (Little Newport Street) Clearance Order, 1938.

(y) The Walsall (Newport Street) Clearance Order, 1938.

(z) The Walsall (Little Newport Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1938.

On the 28th January, 1939, (x) (y) and (z) were confirmed by the Minister of Health with slight modifications.

With respect to Nos. 1-12 inclusive, an Inquiry by P. A. Hopkins, Esq., O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., was held on the 17th January, 1939.

#### CLOSING ORDERS ON PARTS OF A BUILDING.

In 7 cases Closing Orders were made on parts of a building, each part comprising a dwellinghouse.

In one case, viz. :— Nos.14, 14a, Dandy's Walk, Closing Orders were made by the Council on the 7 separate rooms of the building on the 22nd March, 1937. These orders were determined on the 22nd February, 1938, the house having been rendered fit by extensive works of reconditioning and alteration.

#### UNDERTAKINGS.

In 6 cases, viz. :—

No. 1 Algernon Street,

Nos. 47, 48, Holtshill Lane,

Brook Cottage, Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich,

No. 5 back 101, Croft Street,

No. 56 Wolverhampton Street,

Undertakings have been given by the owners that the houses shall not be let for human habitation until the Authority, on being satisfied that the said houses have been made fit, cancel the Undertakings.



In one case, viz. :—

No. 1 Algernon Street,  
an Undertaking given by the owner in terms as set out above, has been cancelled, the house having been rendered fit for human habitation.

In one case, viz. :—

No. Back 44 Stafford Street,  
an Undertaking given by the owner that works would be carried out to render the house fit for human habitation has been complied with.

## CERTIFICATES AS TO THE CONDITION OF HOUSES.

### HOUSING ACT, 1936. SECTION 51.

During the year the Health Committee have considered three applications for Certificates under Section 51 of the Housing Act, 1936, with respect to works of improvement, structural alteration or repair proposed to be executed to working-class houses. The Health Committee made an inspection of each of the properties. In two cases the Committee resolved that they were not of opinion that the properties would be made in all respects fit for human habitation, and the owners have not proceeded with any works. With regard to the other property, an additional list of works was furnished to the owner, and the Committee resolved that they would be prepared to consider the granting of a Certificate after the works had been satisfactorily completed. The owner has since commenced repairs to the property, and they are proceeding.

## HOUSES CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED

### HOUSING ACT, 1936

Individual Unfit Houses dealt with under the Housing Act, 1936.

SITUATION	DATE OF DEMOLITION ORDER	HOUSE CLOSED	HOUSE DEMOLISHED
Old Fields, Birchills (Moor-house)	30th Dec., 1936	28th Aug., 1937	19th Oct., 1938
Old Fields, Birchills (Roberts)	do.	15th July, 1937	do.
Back 88 Hatherton Street	14th Oct., 1936	28th Jan., 1937	30th June, 1938
50 New Street, Walsall	25th Nov., 1936	do.	do.
50½ do.	do.	8th Jan., 1938	do.
51 do.	do.	28th Jan., 1937	do.
The Cottage, Forest Lane	22nd Mar., 1937	7th Aug., 1937	30th Sept., 1938
1 Selmans Hill	26th April, 1937	12th Feb., 1938	26th Sept., 1938
2 do.	do.	5th Mar., 1938	do.
The Cottage, Green Rock Lane	do.	do.	31st Mar., 1938

SITUATION	DATE OF DEMOLITION ORDER	HOUSE CLOSED	HOUSE DEMOLISHED
Back 32 Portsea Street	4th Oct., 1937	13th Dec., 1937	19th Oct., 1938
126 Harden Road	do.	22nd Jan., 1938	22nd Oct., 1938
132A do.	do.	5th Feb., 1938	do.
Mossley Cottage, Sneyd Lane	do.	31st Dec., 1937	14th Jan., 1938
1 in 1 Court, Algernon Street	23rd Dec., 1937	5th Feb., 1938	31st Mar., 1938
2 do. do.	do.	do.	do.
3 do. do.	do.	do.	do.
173 Sandwell Street	do.	27th Dec., 1937	do.
38 New Street, Walsall	2nd Mar., 1938	House void	24th Aug., 1938
38a do.	do.	do.	do.
39 do.	do.	do.	do.
39a do.	do.	do.	do.
40 do.	do.	24th Mar., 1938	do.
40½ do.	do.	House Void	do.
41 do.	do.	do.	do.
42 do.	do.	1st April, 1938	do.
Hut, Old Colliery Workings, Stafford Road, Bloxwich	23rd May, 1938	10th Oct., 1938	13th Oct., 1938
40 Paddock Lane	22nd July, 1938	7th Dec., 1938	
49 Holtshill Lane	5th July, 1938	13th Oct., 1938	
48 West Bromwich Street	do.	22nd July, 1938	
50 do.	do.	8th Nov., 1938	
Caravan, Sandpit, Green Rock Lane	do.	29th July, 1938	11th Aug., 1938
Caravan on land, Rear of 120, High Street, Bloxwich	29th Sept., 1938	21st Oct., 1938	31st Dec., 1938
Harden Cottage, Harden Road	26th Oct., 1938	3rd Nov., 1938	25th Nov., 1938

### GENERAL SUMMARY

The following table shows the number of houses closed and demolished, and the number of persons displaced, during the year 1938, by Orders under the Housing Act, 1936.

Orders	Houses		Persons Displaced
	Closed	Demolished	
Individual Unfits .. .. .	28	30	159
The Walsall (Dudleys Field, Bloxwich) Clearance Order, 1935 .. .. .	—	4	—
The Walsall (Green Lane and Stafford Street) Clearance Order, 1935 ..	—	4	—
The Walsall (Ablewell Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1935 .. .. .	1	4	4

Orders	Houses		Persons Displaced
	Closed	Demolished	
The Walsall (Ablewell Street No. 2) Clearance Order, 1935 .. ..	1	8	4
The Walsall (Upper Rushall Street) Clearance Order, 1935 .. ..	—	7	—
The Walsall (Birmingham Street) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	—	1	—
The Walsall (Hill Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1935 .. ..	3	4	10
The Walsall (Lower Rushall Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	1	3	12
The Walsall (Lower Rushall Street No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1936 ..	6	8	15
The Walsall (Lower Rushall Street No. 4) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1936 ..	2	1	8
The Walsall (Upper Rushall Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1936 ..	1	5	2
The Walsall (Wisemore No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1936 .. ..	1	1	2
The Walsall (Birchills Street) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	—	10	—
The Walsall (Regent Street) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	—	4	—
The Walsall (Sandwell Street) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	—	6	—
The Walsall (Narrow Lane) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	1	—	4
The Walsall (Newhall Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	—	3	—
The Walsall (Stafford Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	1	6	2
The Walsall (Pinfold No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1936 .. ..	3	1	16
The Walsall (Upper Navigation Street) Clearance Order, 1936 .. ..	—	8	—
The Walsall (Wisemore No. 1) Clearance Area, 1936 .. ..	2	3	5

Orders	Houses		Persons Displaced
	Closed	Demol- ished	
The Walsall (Coalpool) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 .. .. .	35	40	144
The Walsall (High Street) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	—	4	—
The Walsall (Portland Street No. 2) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	1	6	5
The Walsall (Portland Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	5	20	12
The Walsall (Garden Street) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	30	117	100
The Walsall (Fishley No. 4) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	2	—	14
The Walsall (Little Bloxwich No. 4) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	5	5	21
The Walsall (Pinfold No. 2) Clearance Area, 1936 .. .. .	1	—	4
The Walsall (Fishley No. 2) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	1	—	2
The Walsall (Goscote No. 1) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	1	—	5
The Walsall (Goscote No. 2) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	7	—	36
The Walsall (Goscote No. 3) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	5	2	18
The Walsall (Goscote No. 4) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	6	6	19
The Walsall (Green Lane No. 1) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	4	2	24
The Walsall (Little Bloxwich No. 1) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	3	3	14
The Walsall (Little Bloxwich No. 2) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	9	—	50
The Walsall (Little Bloxwich No. 3) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	5	2	29
The Walsall (Stafford Street No. 3) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	7	—	21



Orders	Houses		Persons Displaced
	Closed	Demol- ished	
The Walsall (Stafford Street No. 4) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	6	6	19
The Walsall (Stafford Street No. 5) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	13	13	45
The Walsall (Longacre Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	33	32	140
The Walsall (Longacre Street No. 2) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	2	2	10
The Walsall (Croft Street) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	4	1	15
The Walsall (Ryecroft Street) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	13	12	66
The Walsall (Blue Lane East) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	2	2	6
The Walsall (Green Lane No. 6) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 .. ..	15	10	75
The Walsall (Green Lane No. 7) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 .. ..	9	4	27
The Walsall (Green Lane, Birchills No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	43	43	208
The Walsall (Green Lane, Birchills No. 4) Compulsory Order, Purchase 1937 ..	2	2	13
The Walsall (Green Lane, Birchills No. 5) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	6	6	19
The Walsall (Green Lane, Birchills No. 6) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	2	2	15
The Walsall (Brewer Street No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	10	10	36
The Walsall (Brewer Street No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	5	5	18
The Walsall (George Street Terrace) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	24	21	116
The Walsall (Old Birchills) Clearance Order, 1938 .. .. .	2	—	13
The Walsall (Chuckery Road) Clearance Order, 1938 .. .. .	1	—	3

Orders	Houses		Persons Displaced
	Closed	Demol- ished	
The Walsall (Green Lane, Birchills No. 2) Clearance Order, 1938 .. ..	4	—	20
The Walsall (Old Birchills) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 .. ..	1	—	5
The Walsall (Green Lane No. 4) Compul- sory Purchase Order, 1937 .. ..	13	—	44
The Walsall (Field Road, Bloxwich No. 2) Clearance Order, 1937 .. ..	7	7	20
The Walsall (Wolverhampton Road, Wal- sall) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937	2	1	6
The Walsall (Orlando Street) Clearance Order, 1937 .. .. .	13	10	73
The Walsall (Walker Road No. 4) Clear- ance Order, 1937 .. .. .	4	—	22
The Walsall (Walker Road No. 1) Com- pulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	18	10	90
The Walsall (Field Road, Bloxwich No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	1	—	6
The Walsall (Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich) Com- pulsory Purchase Order, 1937 ..	1	—	4
The Walsall (Penkridge Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1938 .. ..	1	—	2
The Walsall (Hall Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1938 .. .. .	2	—	8
The Walsall (Wolverhampton Road, Blox- wich) Clearance Order, 1938 ..	1	—	3
The Walsall (Vicarage Terrace) Compul- sory Purchase Order, 1938 .. ..	3	—	10
The Walsall (Penkridge Street No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1938 ..	2	—	11
The Walsall (Well Lane, Blakenall) Com- pulsory Purchase Order, 1938 ..	3	—	14
Totals ..	455	527	1,943

Number of houses for which official representations were made :—

(a) As Individual Unfits	..	..	..	..	..	42
(b) As Parts of Buildings for Closing	..	..	..	..	..	18
(c) In Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	..	209
Total						269

Number of demolition orders made	..	..	..	..	25
Number of closing orders made on parts of buildings	..	..	..	..	7
Number of persons displaced from Individual Unfit Houses	..	..	..	..	159
Number of persons displaced from Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	1,784

## PROGRESS UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS, 1930 AND 1936

The following table shows the progress made under the Housing Acts, 1930 and 1936, from the commencement of work under the Acts in November 1930 to 31st December, 1938.

	1930 to 1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	Totals
Houses represented—						
Individual Unfit Houses .. ..	367	70	35	36	42	550
Parts of a Building for Closing .. ..	19	32	53	24	18	146
In Clearance Areas .. ..	383	333	519	890	209	2,334
Totals .. ..	769	435	607	950	269	3,030
Houses closed—						
Individual Unfit Houses .. ..	230	122	28	45	28	453
Parts of a Building for Closing .. ..	12	43	56	39	9	159
In Clearance Areas .. ..	189	224	231	442	418	1,504
Totals .. ..	431	389	315	526	455	2,116
Houses demolished—						
Individual Unfit Houses .. ..	190	141	38	36	30	435
In Clearance Areas .. ..	168	184	238	395	497	1,482
Totals .. ..	358	325	276	431	527	1,917
Demolition Orders made .. ..	305	65	36	25	25	456
Closing Orders made on Parts of Buildings	25	17	77	24	7	150
Persons displaced— .. ..						
From Individual Unfit Houses and Parts of Buildings closed .. ..	1,183	809	267	251	159	2,669
From Clearance Areas .. ..	1,037	975	1,053	2,116	1,784	6,965
Totals .. ..	2,220	1,784	1,320	2,367	1,943	9,634



## HOUSING PROGRAMME

Since the date of the operation of the Housing Act, 1930, to the end of 1938, 3,030 houses have been represented as unfit. 269 of these houses were represented during the year 1938. This was a considerable reduction on the previous year, but there are many factors to account for this.

Considerable delay was experienced in obtaining confirmation of Orders for properties which had been represented as unfit in January and March 1937, the final confirmation not being received until May 1938. Early in 1938 approximately 200 new Council houses which had been built for families living in unfit houses became available. Because the Orders had not been confirmed, there were no families from unfit houses who could be rehoused, and it was decided to let these 200 houses to ordinary applicants. Consequently, while rehousing has taken place since the confirmation of the Orders has been received, at the end of 1938 there were still over 500 families living in houses which had been condemned and for which Orders had been confirmed. In many of these cases it is expected that a considerable period will elapse before rehousing can take place, and when it is appreciated that certain of these houses were first represented as unfit in January 1937, it will be realized that many of the houses are now sadly deteriorated. Owners, naturally, will not expend money on the properties, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain even ordinary sanitary conditions with respect to these houses.

The undertaking of works of National Defence has meant a slowing down in the provision of new houses, and this, in addition to the position outlined above, has entailed a consequent slowing down of the work of representation.

It is estimated that there are approximately 2,000 houses yet to be dealt with under the Housing Act, 1936, as unfit for habitation.

## HOUSING INSPECTION BY THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

During the year the Health Committee have made outdoor inspections of all properties which have been represented as unfit for habitation. They have also visited all properties for which applications have been made for certificates under Section 51 of the Housing Act, 1936.



## NEW HOUSES

Mr. M. E. Habershon, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, has kindly furnished information as to the number of new houses erected in the Borough during the year 1938, viz. :—

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b) )	971
	(i) By the Local Authority .. .. .	783
	(ii) By other Local Authorities .. .. .	Nil
	(iii) By other Bodies and Persons .. .. .	188
(b)	(i) By the Local Authority .. .. .	783
	(a) For the Purpose of the Act of 1925	
	(Economic Rents) .. .. .	50
	(b) For the Purpose of the Act of 1930	
	(State assistance under the Housing Acts) ..	733
	(ii) By other Bodies or Persons .. .. .	Nil

## NUMBER OF "COUNCIL" HOUSES

Mr. T. P. Rae, Housing Manager, has kindly submitted the following information showing the number of Council houses completed and let in the Borough of Walsall under the various schemes, as at 31st December, 1938.

	PARLOUR	NON-PARLOUR					TOTALS
	Bedrooms	Bedrooms					
	3	1	2	3	4	5	
Housing Assisted Scheme (1919 Act) .. .. .	124	—	—	180	6	—	310
„ 1923/25 Act .. .. .	509	50	12	3607	29	—	4207
„ 1930 Act .. .. .	—	308	—	1783	290	60	2441
„ 1925 Act (Economic Rent)	—	15	—	600	7	—	622
Totals .. .. .	633	373	12	6170	332	60	7580

# INSPECTION and SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## MILK SUPPLIES, INSPECTION OF MILKING COWS.

On the 1st April, 1938, The Tuberculosis Order of 1938, became operative, repealing the Order of 1925, and transferring the duties of the clinical examination of dairy herds from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The effect of the order has been the taking over of the inspection of the herds, slaughtering of affected animals, and the paying of compensation to the owners by the Ministry. The Local Authority now only being responsible for service of notices with respect to suspected disease, enforcement of limitations of use of milk from diseased animals, and disinfection of articles or premises.

For the first three months of the year inspections of the dairy herds were made by Mr. J. L. Buckingham of the Staffordshire County Council Veterinary Staff, and the following is a summary of his report :—

Number of herds .. .. .	19
Number of cows in milk .. .. .	165
Number of dry cows .. .. .	53

The following samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination :—

For direct film examination .. .. .	4
For group bulk biological examination .. .. .	17
For single biological examination .. .. .	5
For microscopical examination .. .. .	1

One sample of udder secretion taken for single biological examination returned a positive reaction of tubercle bacilli, the others produced negative results.

A cow was slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925, and the Veterinary Inspector gave a certificate of "Advanced Tuberculosis". Compensation according to scale was paid.

The Veterinary Inspector also reported that certain cows in dairy herds were suffering from the undermentioned diseases :—

Induration of the udder .. .. .	12 cases
Suppuration of the udder .. .. .	1 case
Mastitis .. .. .	2 cases

The necessary precautions in each case were taken.

On the whole the general standard of cleanliness of dairy herds and premises is well up to standard, and the condition of the dairy herds has been good. All cow-keepers and dairymen are responsible for maintaining dairies and cowsheds in their occupation in a wholesome condition. The Sanitary Inspectors visit these premises regularly during the year to enforce the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

#### “ACCREDITED” MILK.

During the year 2 cow-keepers made structural alterations to their cowsheds, and applied to the Local Authority for licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders to produce and sell milk under the designation “Accredited”. The alterations were supervised by the Sanitary Inspectors, and, subject to satisfactory certificate as to the condition of the cows comprising the dairy herds, “Accredited” licences were granted. At one of the premises extensive works of re-conditioning and alteration were carried out, including the provision of a new dairy comprising separate cooling and sterilising rooms.

The Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries supply the quarterly reports under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders with regard to the three “Accredited” producers in the Borough.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

##### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936, AND 1938.

Forty-four samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, viz :—8 “Tuberculin Tested,” 1 “Tuberculin Tested (Certified),” 17 “Accredited,” 13 “Pasteurised,” 3 “Loose,” and 2 “Undesignated Bottled” milks.

The prescribed conditions were complied with in 4 “Tuberculin Tested,” 1 “Tuberculin Tested (Certified),” 9 “Accredited,” 1 “Pasteurised,” 1 “Loose,” and 1 of the “Undesignated Bottled” milk samples.

The following table shows particulars of the samples which did not comply with the standards laid down for the bacteriological examination of milk :—

No. of sample	Designation	Nature of test carried out		
		No. of organisms per 1 c.c.	Presence or absence of B.Coli in 1/100th m.l.	Methylene Blue Test
4.	"Tuberculin Tested"	—	Present	Failed
6.	"Accredited"	—	Absent	Failed
9.	"Accredited"	—	Absent	Failed
12.	"Pasteurised"	148,600	—	—
16.	"Pasteurised"	1,552,000	Present	—
18.	"Accredited"	—	Absent	Failed
19.	"Tuberculin Tested"	—	Present	Failed
20.	"Tuberculin Tested"	—	Present	Failed
22.	"Accredited"	—	Present	Passed
23.	"Accredited"	—	Absent	Failed
24.	"Accredited"	—	Present	Passed
29.	"Bottled"	—	Absent	Failed
32.	"Tuberculin Tested"	—	Absent	Failed
39.	"Loose"	—	Present	Passed
40.	"Loose"	—	Present	Passed
41.	"Accredited"	—	Absent	Failed
42.	"Accredited"	—	Absent	Failed

In addition to being bacteriologically examined, samples Nos. 39 and 40 were microscopically examined. The examination of the deposit from these samples revealed the presence of vegetable debris, cows' hairs, calcium concretions and at least one egg of a nematode worm. This milk was obtained from a farm in the area of Stafford County and a copy of this report was forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health for his information.

Included in the above list is a sample purchased from a dairyman in this Borough following receipt of an adverse report from the County Medical Officer of Health, Stafford. This report was as follows :—

Designation.	Nature of tests carried out by Notifying Authority.		
	No. of organisms per 1 c.c.	Presence or absence of B.Coli in 1/100th m.l.	Methylene Blue Test
Undesignated Bottled.	—	Absent	Failed



In addition to the above sample the County Medical Officer of Health, Stafford, reported that one sample of "Pasteurised" milk, purchased in the County from a Walsall firm of pasteurisers, had failed the Bacteria count test, revealing on examination 126,000 organisms per 1 c.c. A sample purchased subsequently from this firm by the Borough Sampling Officer passed the test.

The attention of the respective vendors was drawn to the adverse reports on these samples, and they were advised to take steps to discover and remedy the cause if due to any fault of their own or to arrange with their producers to do so if the latter were responsible. The bottling establishments have been visited regularly and the arrangements for washing and sterilising of bottles and methods of bottling inspected.

#### PHOSPHATASE TEST.

11 samples of Pasteurised milk have been submitted for examination under the phosphatase test.

9 samples passed the test, the following are particulars of the 2 unsatisfactory samples :—

No. of Lovibond Blue Units (should not exceed 2.3 L.B.U.)	Remarks of Public Analyst.
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 10px;"> 5.90    2.50 </div> <div style="font-size: 4em; line-height: 1;">}</div> </div>	In the pasteurisation there has been some slight technical error, i.e. (imperfect temperature or time control, or a slight addition of raw milk).

In both cases the milk was pasteurised at the same establishment which is situated outside the Borough. Reports on these samples were sent to the Authorities concerned.

All pasteurising plants in the Borough are regularly supervised by the Sanitary Inspectors.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Fifty-five thousand and nineteen carcasses were inspected at time of slaughter. The carcasses examined during 1935, 1936, and 1937, were 51,343, 60,173 and 51,373, respectively.

Particulars as to unwholesome food destroyed will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

The following Table is included in the form requested by the Ministry of Health :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	3,460	3,094	2,843	31,840	12,812
Number inspected ..	3,451	3,094	2,843	31,796	12,805
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS .. ..					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil.	7	Nil.	23	11
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned .. ..	264	771	2	772	251
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis .. ..	7.65%	25.15%	.07%	2.5%	2.05%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. Whole carcasses condemned	2	20	Nil.	Nil.	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned .. ..	184	1154	1	Nil.	832
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. ..	6.01%	37.94%	.04%	Nil.	6.57%

Regular visits are made to all premises where the preparation, storage or sale of food is carried on. These include slaughterhouses, whole-sale meat stores, butchers' shops, fishmongers, fishfriers, bakehouses, confectioners, greengrocers, grocers, cowsheds, dairies, milkshops, and the retail markets held twice weekly.

## ADULTERATION

Two hundred and twenty-five samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis. The requirements of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 and 1927, were found to be complied with in 214 of the samples. Eleven samples of milk were reported to be deficient in fat.

## Particulars of milk samples deficient in fat.

No. of Sample.	Formal or Informal.	Percentage of fat deficiency.	Resolution of Health Committee and action taken.
74	Formal	3.30	Sample No. 80 was an "Appeal to Cow" sample subsequent to samples Nos. 74, 76, 77, 78, 79. After carefully considering the legal position, it was resolved that no action be taken except that the Local Authority in whose district the producer's premises were situate, were informed of the results of the samples, and immediate steps were taken to improve the quality of the milk. Subsequent samples proved satisfactory.
76	Formal	3.33	
77	Formal	5.00	
78	Formal	6.66	
79	Formal	3.33	
80	Informal	5.00	These four samples were taken from one firm of dairymen. Resolved that a strong warning letter be sent to the firm.
102	Formal	3.30	
106	Formal	8.30	
111	Formal	11.60	
112	Formal	5.00	
145	Formal	16.60	That a severe warning be sent to the offender.

## CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

Chemical examination of food is made by Mr. F. E. Thompson, A.R.C.S., F.I.C., Public Analyst, at his Laboratory, Kelvin Chambers, Lichfield Street, Walsall.

Bacteriological examination of food is made at the Bacteriological Department, The Medical School, The Hospitals Centre, Birmingham.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

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### MATERNITY HOSPITALS

At both the Maternity Hospital, Bloxwich, and at the Manor Hospital another very busy year has been experienced : at the Maternity Hospital there were 263 confinements and at the Manor Hospital 496.

Applications for admission to both the Maternity Hospital and to the Maternity Ward at the Manor Hospital have been greater then ever. The Maternity Unit at the Manor Hospital was not completed at the end of the year, the official opening by Councillor A. J. Stanley, Chairman of the Health Committee, taking place on the 16th March, 1939.

The following table shows the increase in the number of confinements taking place in hospitals and nursing homes during the last ten years

1929	..	169	1934	..	615
1930	..	413	1935	..	699
1931	..	436	1936	..	758
1932	..	526	1937	..	768
1933	..	553	1938	..	902

Thus, in the year 1938, 902 confinements, or 43.5% of the total, occurred either in Hospitals or in private nursing homes.



Table showing particulars of the cases dealt with at the Maternity Block, Manor Hospital, and at the Maternity Hospital at Bloxwich

DETAILS OF CASES	MANOR HOSPITAL	MATERNITY HOSPITAL
Number of Cases admitted during 1938 .. ..	496	263
Average duration of stay .. .. .	12.0 days	13.3 days
No. of Cases delivered by—		
(a) Midwives .. .. .	462	181
(b) Doctors .. .. .	34	70
No. of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a midwife in emergency .. ..	138	55
No. of Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified ..	3	1
No. of Cases of pemphigus neonatorum ..	1	Nil.
No. of infants not entirely breast fed while in the Institution .. .. .	19	11
No. of Cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum ..	Nil.	Nil.
No. of Maternal Deaths .. .. .	3	Nil.
No. of deaths—		
(a) Stillborn .. .. .	21	12
(b) Within 10 days of birth and their causes, and the results of the post-mortem exam- ination, if obtainable .. .. .	†17	* 2

† 15 died from Premature Birth, 1 from Inanition, and 1 from Meningocele.

\* 1 died from Premature Birth and 1 from Spina Bifida.

### Maternity and Nursing Homes

There are now in Walsall two combined Maternity and Nursing Homes and one Maternity Home. All these premises are registered

under the Public Health Act, 1936. Exemptions, as provided for under Section 192 of the Act, were granted to our own Hospitals, and the Walsall General Hospital.

The Nursing Homes are kept under supervision by the Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, who visits the homes at intervals during the year, examines the registers and makes a thorough inspection of the home at each visit.

Each Health Visitor is responsible for visiting the births in her own district, and should she, in the course of her duties, come across an infant whose birth has not been notified, careful enquiries are made into the circumstances, the attention of the party at fault being called to the omission.

No unregistered Nursing Homes were discovered during the year.

## DISTRICT MIDWIFERY

### **Midwives Act, 1936—Municipal Midwifery Service**

The Municipal Midwifery Service has worked smoothly during the year. In consequence of the voluntary retirement on compensation at 31st December, 1937, of a midwife who had previously carried on a large private practice, one additional midwife was appointed—making our staff of district municipal midwives 12. Two municipal midwives resigned their appointments as district midwives, one returning to hospital practice and the other to private practice. Their places were filled by other appointments.

One midwife voluntarily surrendered her certificate during the year.

The municipal midwives attended 722 cases during the year, 606 as midwives and 116 as maternity nurses. In addition, they have accepted the responsibility of supervising all women, who, for any cause, have been discharged from hospital after a stay of less than fourteen days after their confinement. They have also taken over cases from private midwives who for any reason have been unable to complete the normal period of attendance on their patients.

Midwives in private practice have conducted 684 cases, 338 of these having occurred in the practice of one midwife. On previous occasions

I have called attention to our lack of power to limit the number of cases which a private midwife may take, and further comment is unnecessary.

**Table showing number of Midwives practising in the Borough and cases attended during 1938**

	Domiciliary Midwives	Midwives in Institutions	Totals
No. of Midwives practising in the Borough at the end of 1938—			
(a) Employed by the Council ..	12	8	20
(b) In private practice .. ..	8	—	8
	20	8	28
	Domiciliary Cases	Cases in Institutions	Totals
No. of cases in the Borough attended by Midwives—			
(a) Employed by the Council—			
(i) As Midwives .. ..	606	643	1,249
(ii) As Maternity Nurses ..	116	104	220
(b) In private practice—			
(i) As Midwives .. ..	571	—	571
(ii) As Maternity Nurses ..	113	—	113
TOTALS { (i) As Midwives .. ..	1,177	643	1,820
(ii) As Maternity Nurses ..	229	104	333
	1,406	747	2,153

### Midwives Acts, 1902—1926

MIDWIVES' INSPECTIONS, ETC.	Total
No. of Midwives on Register—Trained ..	54
No. of Visits to Midwives      Inspections ..    163	} 427
Interviews ..    264	
Puerperal Pyrexia notified .. .. .	9
8 cases were treated in Hospital.	
1 case proved fatal	
Midwives disinfected .. .. .	5

## Midwives' Notifications

Medical Help	Stillbirth	Death of Child	Intention to Practice	Liability to be a source of Infection	Laying out a dead body	Proposed Artificial Feeding	Change of Address	Death of Mother	Change of Name
372	24	16	54	10	11	22	2	2	—

## Conditions for which Doctors were called in by Midwives

## PREGNANCY.

Abortion and Miscarriage	..	..	..	..	..	4
Threatened Miscarriage or Abortion	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dangerous Varicose Veins	..	..	..	..	..	1
Albuminuria	..	..	..	..	..	7
Contracted Pelvis	..	..	..	..	..	8
Malpresentation	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other Causes (Indefinite diagnosis)	..	..	..	..	..	17
						—
						41
						—

## LABOUR.

Ante and Post-Partum Haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	10
Ruptured Perinaeum	..	..	..	..	91
Prolonged and Difficult Labour	..	..	..	..	50
Malpresentation	..	..	..	..	14
Retained Placenta and Membranes	..	..	..	..	8
Other Causes (indefinite diagnosis)	..	..	..	..	12
					—
					185
					—

## PUERPERIUM.

Rise of Temperature	..	..	..	..	14
Mastitis	..	..	..	..	1
Other Causes (indefinite diagnosis)	..	..	..	..	19
					—
					34
					—



## INFANT.

Inflammation of, or discharge from Eyes	..	..	..	24
Dangerous Feebleness and Prematurity	..	..	..	36
Serious Skin Eruption	..	..	..	10
Malformation and Congenital Defects	..	..	..	10
Convulsions	..	..	..	5
Other Causes	..	..	..	27
				112

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were six deaths due directly to childbirth during the year, as against eight in the previous year. This represents a maternal death rate of 2.90 as compared with 3.08 for England and Wales. In 1937 the rates were Walsall 4.0, England and Wales 3.2.

There were two deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and four from diseases associated with childbirth, the causes of death being, respectively :—

1. Cerebral embolus, 11 days after childbirth.
2. Haemorrhage from uterus due to abortion.
3. Lobar pneumonia. Parturition.
4. Pulmonary embolus 6 days after childbirth. Nephritis.
5. Puerperal sapraemia. Nephritis.
6. Obstetric shock and post-partum haemorrhage. Retained placenta.

All the necessary equipment for the use of a "Flying Squad" emergency unit has been obtained. The team operates from the Manor Hospital, and is available when required by any medical practitioner in the borough.

The following are the death rates for the last 10 years :—

1929	..	..	5.0	1934	..	..	1.5
1930	..	..	5.3	1935	..	..	3.8
1931	..	..	2.9	1936	..	..	3.9
1932	..	..	4.3	1937	..	..	4.0
1933	..	..	0.5	1938	..	..	2.9

Under the regulations of the Ministry of Health which came into force on October 1st, 1926, whereby any febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage in which a temperature of 100.4F. or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours, etc., has to be notified by the doctor in attendance, 9 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified.

Mr. S. W. Maslen Jones, F.R.C.S., is the Consultant under the Puerperal Pyrexia regulations, and his services are available when required.

Of the 2,105 births notified during the year, 1,820 or 86.5 per cent. were conducted by Midwives alone. 185 medical help forms were received from Midwives in respect of labour complications; of that number, 50, or 27.0 per cent., were in respect of prolonged and difficult labour, and 91, or 49.2 per cent., in respect of ruptured perinaeum.

## ANTE AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

The number of mothers attending the ante-natal clinics again shows an increase. At Pool Street the average attendance at each of the two weekly sessions was 12 with an average of six new mothers per week. At Field Road, where an average of seven new mothers are seen per week, the average attendance per session was 16. At Milton Street and at Ida Road, at both of which clinics weekly sessions have been held since September, 1937, the average attendances per session were 15 and 14 respectively. At the Manor Hospital, two ante-natal sessions are held weekly, so that there is now a total of eight ante-natal sessions in the Borough each week.

The evening sessions at both Field Road and Pool Street continue to be well attended. Quite a large number of expectant mothers find it more convenient to attend in the evenings than in the mornings.

During the year 999 expectant mothers attended the extern clinics as against 823 in 1937, and 469 attended the ante-natal clinics at the Manor Hospital, 269 being referred from the extern clinics.

4,177 medical examinations were made at the extern clinics and 3,352 at the Manor Hospital.

A special consultative ante-natal and post-natal clinic has been established at the Manor Hospital, Mr. W. E. Barnie-Adshead, F.R.C.S. being appointed consultant. The Clinic, which was instituted in April 1938, is held once monthly, cases being referred from the municipal clinics or by private practitioners. Forty seven cases were examined during the nine months the Clinic was established.

To ensure that every expectant mother may have at least one medical examination during her pregnancy, arrangements have been made whereby any expectant mother who does not wish to attend an ante-natal clinic for examination may be examined by her own doctor. The midwife makes arrangements direct with the doctor and attends if possible with her patient. The doctor sends his report to the Medical Officer of Health as soon as possible after his examination, and the findings and recommendations of the doctor are communicated to the midwife. A fee of 5/- is paid to the doctor for his examination and report.

Similarly, expectant mothers attending the ante-natal clinics, and in whom any condition is present likely to necessitate the attendance of a doctor at the confinement or calling for treatment during pregnancy, are referred to their own doctors.

Under these arrangements 53 medical examinations were carried out by doctors.

The number of cases registered during the year at the various Clinics is as follows :—

	Ida Road	Pool Street	Field Road	Milton Street	TOTAL
New Cases .. ..	216	307	389	169	1081
Total Attendances ..	733	1195	1663	778	4369
Medically Examined ..	684	1135	1610	748	4177

#### Summary of Cases in which some Abnormality has been found.

1. ALBUMINURIA .. ..	47
Referred to own Doctor .. ..	29
2. PURULENT DISCHARGE .. ..	11
Referred to Hospital or own Doctor .. ..	5

3.	CONTRACTED PELVIS .. .. .	16
	Referred to own Doctor .. .. .	16
4.	MALPRESENTATIONS .. .. .	19
	Righted at subsequent attendance .. .. .	16
	Referred to own Doctor .. .. .	7
5.	VARICOSE VEINS .. .. .	57
	Requiring bandages .. .. .	57
6.	HEART DISEASE .. .. .	6

We appreciate the co-operation of the private Medical Practitioner and Midwives, which greatly assists us in our work.

All cases attending the Ante-Natal clinics requiring medical treatment are referred through the midwife to their own doctor or to hospital.

Cases requiring special care were referred by letter to the medical practitioners and midwives who were engaged to attend them.

We again tender our thanks to the Civic Guild of Help for their help throughout the year, also to Mr. Grosvenor Overton who has again assisted us through various ex-service funds to obtain medical requisites and to provide extra nourishment in necessitous cases.

During 1938 317 expectant or nursing mothers were found to be suffering from some degree of dental sepsis, and were referred for treatment, the majority of these women receiving treatment at the Manor Hospital.

A scheme for the supply of dentures in necessitous cases, either free or in part payment, on the recommendation of the medical officers, was approved by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the year. No dentures were supplied under the scheme during 1938.

### INFANT MORTALITY

During the year there were 1,998 births (1,949 legitimate and 49 illegitimate). There were 129 deaths of infants under one year, six of whom were illegitimate.



The Mortality Rate of legitimate births was 63.11 per 1,000 births, whilst that of illegitimate births was 122.45, giving a total Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births of 64.56 as compared with a rate of 57.01 for 1937.

Although the infant mortality rate is higher than it has been for two years, there has been a very gratifying drop in the deaths of children between the ages of 1 and 5 years, there being 37 deaths of toddlers between these ages, as against 61 in the previous year.

Leamore Ward with 175 notified births and 8 infant deaths has the lowest infantile mortality rate 45.7 per 1,000 births, Pleck comes next with 267 births and 13 infant deaths (48.7) followed closely by Hather-ton 121 births and 6 infant deaths (49.6),

Paddock	147 births	8 infant deaths	(54.4)
Harden	403	„ 24 „ „	(59.6)
Birchills	237	„ 15 „ „	(63.3)
Palfrey	218	„ 15 „ „	(68.8)
Bloxwich	178	„ 13 „ „	(72.9)
Caldmore	129	„ 10 „ „	(77.5)

The black spot this year is Bridge Ward with an infant mortality rate of 105.6, having 17 infant deaths out of 147 births.

Twelve months ago Hather-ton with an infant mortality rate of 100.7 occupied this unenviable position at the foot of the table.

There were no deaths due to Measles, against three last year.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia accounted for 27 deaths or 20.9 per cent. of the total infant deaths, and Diarrhoea for 11, or 8.5 per cent.

Prematurity accounted for 44 deaths, or 34.1 per cent., whilst Congenital Defects and Deaths arising from Congenital Debility and Wasting accounted for 32, or 24.8 per cent. of the total.

52 babies, over one third of the total, died within one week of birth, 34 of these from Prematurity, and 72 within the first four weeks of birth (55.8 per cent.).

Of the 129 infant deaths, 44 or 34.1% were first babies, but only 18 of their mothers had received any ante-natal advice or supervision during their pregnancies, 13 having attended the ante-natal clinics, and 5 their own doctors. 20 of those 44 first babies died from prematurity. Ten twins died before they reached their first birthday, 7 from prematurity and 3 from congenital debility.

72 babies died within the first four weeks of life, 52 of those died within the first week, *i.e.* of the 1998 babies born during the year the neo-natal rate per 1,000 births was 36.0, as against 25.1 in the previous year.

Each year we have to record a very high percentage of infant deaths during the first week of life and during the first four weeks, as is shown in the following table :—

Year	No. of Births	No. of Deaths under 1 year of age	No. of Deaths in Children under 1 year due to Prematurity	No. of Deaths in Children under 1 year due to Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	No. of Deaths from all causes under the age of 1 month	No. of Deaths from all causes under the age of 1 week
1925	2257	260	42	46	86	46
1926	2154	180	49	36	101	60
1927	2125	205	54	32	88	62
1928	2031	187	58	40	105	73
1929	1979	198	51	27	79	52
1930	2058	142	40	13	73	48
1931	2034	150	47	12	70	47
1932	2005	146	41	19	69	48
1933	1883	167	58	19	86	61
1934	1902	131	39	12	66	45
1935	2004	135	38	9	74	51
1936	1968	121	39	14	57	40
1937	1912	109	23	7	48	35
1938	1998	129	44	9	72	52

### INFANT FEEDING

INFANT FEEDING.—When first visited, 1,421 infants were entirely breast fed, 276 breast and artificially fed, and 202 artificially fed.

Details of the food supplied are given as follows :—

#### FIRST VISIT—

Cow's Milk was being given to 269 babies.

Dried Milk was being given to 189 babies.

Condensed Milk was being given to 11 babies.

Other Patent Foods were being given to 9 babies.

## WHILST ON RE-VISIT—

Cow's Milk was being given to 304 babies.

Dried Milk was being given to 327 babies.

Condensed Milk was being given to 14 babies.

Other Patent Foods were being given to 31 babies.

On the first re-visits, 1,197 were reported to be entirely breast fed.

12 infants died before being re-visited, and 14 had left the Borough or could not be traced.

## INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

The attendances at the Welfare Centres during the year show a considerable increase over those of the previous year, the total attendances at the various centres being 39,159 as against 33,547 in 1937. The number of new babies registered also shows a considerable increase being 1,748 as against 1379.

All the centres share in this increase, attendances ranging from 100 to 120 at a session being by no means uncommon. The average attendance per session of infants and toddlers throughout the year was 73 at Ida Road, 71 at Littleton Street, 70 at both Milton Street and Pool Street, and 65 at Field Road. There are three weekly sessions at Field Road, and two at each of the other centres.

When dried milk and other foods were available on one day only each week at the centres, the attendances have naturally been larger on these days, so with the object of equalising the attendances as far as possible, arrangements have now been made whereby milk and other foods can be obtained on each day on which the centres are open.

1,468 infants under 12 months (representing 70 per cent of the total children born) attended the Infant Welfare Centres during the year, and 280 children between the ages of 1 and 5 also attended for the first time.

Our thanks are due to the members of the Child Welfare Voluntary Association for the keen interest they take in our work, and we would give our grateful thanks to those ladies who give so much time to helping the Nursing Staff at the Welfare Centres by acting as recording secretaries, by knitting and supplying woollen and other garments for the babies and toddlers, by arranging summer outings and Christmas



parties for the mothers and their little ones. We also thank the Ladies Institute through Miss Hill, their representative on the Association, for their handsome gift of money whereby we can provide so many of our poorer families with cod liver oil and other food tonics, free of cost.

Our thanks are also due to Miss Hawley and her Girl Guides for so kindly knitting so many woollen garments for babies and which are so very acceptable to the mothers attending our centres.

### Attendances Registered at the Infant Welfare Centres.

CENTRE	Under 6 months		6—12 months		1—2 years		2—5 years		Total		New Cases
	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	
Pool St. . .	2664	1349	1676	633	1327	439	2142	457	7809	2878	331
Field Rd. . .	3114	1545	1793	698	1758	616	3066	907	9731	3766	418
Littleton St.	2518	1374	1422	564	1186	494	2178	560	7304	2992	347
Milton St.	2207	1212	1482	631	1358	473	1932	551	6979	2867	306
Ida Rd. . .	2446	1291	1479	536	1412	404	1999	416	7336	2647	346
Total . .	12949	6771	7852	3062	7041	2426	11317	2891	39159	15150	1748

A.—Number of Attendances. M.—Number Medically Examined.

### Toddlers' Clinic

The 'Toddlers' Clinic was started in September 1937 by the Health Committee as a means of supervising the welfare of children in the 'toddler' stage, that is, between the ages of one and five years. The need for such a measure has become increasingly recognised in recent years by those who have the welfare of the child population at heart. The supervision of the infant below the age of one year has for long been adequately provided by the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, and at five years of age the child goes to school and comes under the observation of the School Medical Service.

There has been, until recently, no effective supervision of the child population between these extremes, and, as a result, it has been found that a surprising number of children entering school for the first time exhibit some form of disability.



The 'Toddlers' Clinic is an attempt to deal with this unsatisfactory state of affairs by providing routine medical inspection of children before they attain school age.

A letter of invitation is sent to the parents from the Medical Officer of Health, reminding them of the child's age and inviting them to bring the child at a certain time for medical inspection. This system obviates any unnecessary waiting. On arrival at the clinic, the child is weighed and then examined medically. The attention of the parent is drawn to any defects present, and arrangements for observation and any necessary treatment are made.

Cases of defect are followed up at the Welfare Centres and at home by the Health Visitors.

The clinic is held weekly, and parents attend with their children at the nearest Welfare Centre, and thus do not have long distances to travel.

The 'Toddlers' Clinic has now finished its first complete year of work, and it can be said with confidence that the promise of success which it gave in the early months has been fulfilled.

The following tables give particulars of the work done during 1938.

TABLE 1

Number of children sent for	..	..	..	..	..	574
Number of children examined	..	..	..	..	..	388
Percentage of invitations accepted	..	..	..	..	..	67%

TABLE 2

			Boys	Girls	Total
Number of children inspected	..	..	181	207	388
Number found defective	..	..	85	108	193
Incidence of defects	..	..	46.9%	52.2%	49.9%

The following is an analysis of the abnormal conditions found :—

TABLE 3

Unsatisfactory General Condition	..	..	..	..	4
Advice regarding management	..	..	..	..	20
Defects of					
Skin and connective tissues	..	..	..	..	30

Teeth .. .. .	55
Nose and Throat .. .. .	42
Eyes .. .. .	10
Ears .. .. .	7
Mental Development .. .. .	2
Heart and circulatory system .. .. .	1
Respiratory system .. .. .	29
Nervous system .. .. .	9
Muscles, bones and joints .. .. .	15
Digestive system .. .. .	8
Urinary system .. .. .	1

The commonest defect found in these children is dental caries, followed closely in frequency by abnormal conditions in the nose and throat.

Treatment is arranged for at the clinic, and cases are referred when necessary to their private doctor or to the Manor Hospital.

The 'Toddlers' Clinic has had a very successful year, and the figures show an encouraging response on the part of parents.

In addition to the children attending the 'Toddlers' Clinic for special examination, 2,225 children between the ages of 1 and 5 years attended the ordinary child welfare sessions.

## INFANT LIFE PROTECTION

The supervision of children coming within the terms of Sections 206-220 of the Public Health Act, 1936, is carried out by the Health Committee, the Health Visitors being appointed Infant Life Protection Visitors within the meaning of the Act.

Under the Act, where a person undertakes for reward the nursing and maintenance of an infant under the age of nine years, apart from its parents, he shall, seven days before the reception of such infant, give notice thereof to the Local Authority.

The Medical Officer of Health is the person appointed to receive such notices on behalf of the Local Authority.

During the year five such notices were received by the Medical Officer of Health, there being 14 cases under supervision at the beginning of the year.

Three children were removed from the Register during the year for the following reasons :—

Returned to parents or other relatives	1
Transferred to other district	.. 2

Sixteen children remained on the Register at the end of the year.

69 visits were paid to the homes of these children during the year. On the whole the children were being cared for in a satisfactory manner. A number of the children were brought with great regularity to the Welfare Centres, their foster-parents co-operating in every way with the Nursing staff.

## MEDICAL AID AND PROVISION OF MILK

The Guild of Help continues, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, to do the investigation work required by the Health Committee in regard to the provision of milk to expectant and nursing mothers and to children. Suitable cases are recommended by the Medical Officer at the Welfare or Ante-Natal Centres. Reports are then made on these cases by the Secretary of the Guild who attends the weekly meetings of the Milk Sub-Committee and all recommendations are dealt with by this Committee.

During the year, milk was supplied free to 206 expectant mothers, 556 infants under one year of age, and to 124 children between the ages of 1 and 5 years.

£768 8s. 2d. was expended on fresh milk, and £317 19s. 3d. on dried milk, a total of £1,086 7s. 5d.

All cases of Midwifery where a Medical Practitioner is called in by the Midwife in attendance, and where a claim for fees is made, are investigated by the Guild, and a report submitted to the Medical Officer of Health. 256 such reports were received by the latter during the year.

### Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum

CASES			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	At Hospital				
5	4	1	5	—	—	—

HOSPITAL TREATMENT. Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum are admitted, if necessary, to the Manor Hospital, which is now under the control of the Health Committee, no charge being made for maintenance. Mothers also may be admitted along with their babies.

### Orthopaedic Treatment

All cases of orthopaedic defect occurring amongst children under the age of 5 years are treated at the Orthopaedic Clinic established by the Education Committee at Bradford Street.

During the year, 39 infants and toddlers under the age of five were examined as new cases by the Surgeon Specialist, 127 attendances being made by children under the age of five for orthopaedic treatment. Eight children were discharged as cured. Sixteen children received electrical treatment and massage in the Massage Department, making a total of 308 attendances. In addition, cases were treated from the Staffordshire County and the Borough of Wednesbury, by arrangement with those authorities. Five children were admitted to The Woodlands for in-patient treatment.

### Ultra Violet Light Clinic

During the year, 219 children under 5 years were treated at the Ultra Violet Light Clinic, making a total of 3,030 attendances.

The following is a summary of the disabilities from which the children were suffering :—

Rickets	..	..	..	..	68
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	39
Debility and Wasting			..	..	96
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	3
Underweight		..	..	..	2
Other conditions	..	..	..	..	11



142 of these children were discharged from treatment during the year and the following table shows the results of treatment :—

	Cured	Very much Improved	Improved	Discontinued Treatment	Total
Rickets . . . . .	—	9	16	28	53
Bronchitis . . . . .	—	5	5	2	12
Debility and Wasting . .	1	14	10	34	59
Underweight . . . . .	—	—	1	2	3
Tuberculosis . . . . .	—	—	2	1	3
Other Conditions . . . .	—	2	3	7	12
	1	30	37	74	142

Treatments in the Ultra Violet Light Clinic are given with a Mercury Vapour Lamp at a distance of three feet. General light baths are the rule but local applications in addition are given when necessary. Treatment is given twice weekly.

During the year 5,546 attendances were made by all cases for treatment as against 4,288 during 1937.

### NURSING SERVICES

The Co-ordinated Nursing Scheme has worked smoothly during the year. The Health Visitors' Staff have paid 37,179 visits to homes during 1938 in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme alone as against 31,418 in 1937.

Details of their work will be found in the following table.

#### The Work of the Health Visitors

##### FIRST AND RE-VISITS

Half-days spent at Welfare Centres	Birth Enquiries First Visits	Re-visits to Infants under 12 months	Visits to Children 1—5 years	Ante-Natal First Visits	Ante-Natal Re-Visits	Ophth- almia First Visits	Ophth- almia Re-Visits	Other Visits (Infec- tious Diseases etc.)	Total Visits
2149	1899	10696	20976	937	575	7	6	2083	37179

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS, YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31st, 1938

No. of Births notified during the year	..	..	..	2,105
by Medical Practitioners and Parents			16	
by Midwives	..	..	2,089	
Born in Maternity Hospital	..	..	..	254
„ Manor Hospital	..	..	..	496
„ Private Nursing Homes		..	..	155
Stillbirths notified during the year	..	..	..	75
„ „ by Medical Practitioners	..		2	
„ „ by Midwives	..	..	73	

Notified Births (excluding Stillbirths), Deaths under 1 year and  
Rate, Year ending December 31st, 1938

	Blox- wich		Lea- more		Har- den		Birch- hills		Hath- erton		Pad- dock		Bridge		Pleck		Cald- more		Pal- frey		Manor Hosp.		Mat. Hosp.		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	*M.	*F.	*M.	*F.	M.	F.
Births ..	90	88	92	83	202	201	117	120	56	65	81	66	78	83	124	143	61	68	116	102	24	44	1	—	1042	1063
Deaths under 1 year	13		8		24		15		6		8		17		13		10		15		—		—		129	
Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	72.9		45.7		59.6		63.3		49.6		54.4		105.6		48.7		77.5		68.8		—		—		64.6	

\* Births of “out of the Borough” cases only.

## MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

There has been no change in the scheme for Mental Welfare in the Borough during the year.

The Mental Welfare Association continues to assist the Statutory Authority in administering the Mental Deficiency Acts, by assisting in the ascertainment and in visiting and supervising all defective persons residing within the Borough. The Association also assists the Local Education Authority in the supervision of mentally defective children in attendance at special schools or otherwise.

The number of mentally defective persons in the Borough ascertained up to the present is 923 against 902 at the end of 1937. These are distributed as follows :—

(a) STATUTORY CASES.

In Certified Institutions	..	..	..	..	248
On Licence	..	..	..	..	22
Under Guardianship	..	..	..	..	26
In places of safety	..	..	..	..	3
Under Statutory Supervision	..	..	..	..	173
Notified by Local Education Authority	..	..	..	..	9
In Public Assistance Institutions (approved or otherwise)	..	..	..	..	24
In receipt of Poor Law Relief (Domiciliary)	..	..	..	..	31
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	536

In addition there are 262 cases under Voluntary supervision by the Mental Welfare Association.

(b) EDUCATION CASES, i.e., children between the ages of 7 and 16 who are capable of instruction in a special school.

In Certified Residential Schools	..	..	..	26
At Elementary Schools	..	..	..	61
At Other Institutions	..	..	..	3
At No School or Institution	..	..	..	35
TOTAL	..	..	..	125

During the year, 504 visits were paid to homes by visitors from the Mental Welfare Association.

45 Cases were notified to the Voluntary Association during the year, and these were dealt with as follows :—

Certified and sent to Institutions	..	..	2
Placed under Statutory Supervision	..	..	2
Awaiting Certificates	..	..	1
Remaining under Voluntary Supervision	..		40
TOTAL			45

### OCCUPATION CENTRE.

The 84 members in attendance at the Occupation Centre are divided into three classes as follows :—

<i>Name of Class</i>	<i>Days of Attendance</i>	<i>Hours of Attendance</i>	<i>Number on Roll</i>
JUNIOR (MIXED) (children from 7 years of age upwards)	Monday Wednesday Friday	10 a.m. till 3.30 p.m.	52
INDUSTRIAL (youths from 16 years of age upwards)	Tuesday Thursday	10 a.m. till 12 noon	9
SENIOR GIRLS (Girls over 16 years of age)	Tuesday Thursday	2 p.m. till 4 p.m.	23
			TOTAL 84

### Junior Class.

Apart from one or two isolated cases of infectious disease, there has been no serious illness among the children. Several cases of minor ailments have occurred but the attendance has been satisfactory. Pupils attending bring their own lunch, a hot drink being provided free of charge. A rest period is encouraged after this meal, each child having been provided with a blanket and pillow for the purpose. Special attention is paid to personal hygiene and physical training. Other work undertaken includes domestic work, simple laundry work, and various kinds of handwork, e.g., rugmaking, knitting, sewing and embroidery. Apparatus is provided for colour and shape-testing.



Lacing and button-hole frames are supplied in order to teach the children to fasten up their own shoes and clothing. Nature walks into the Arboretum have been continued during the summer months.

### **Senior Girls' Class.**

Attendance in this class has been well maintained. One afternoon weekly is now principally devoted to games although sewing and embroidery continues and very creditable work is turned out. This finds a ready sale and from time to time sums realised in this way are credited to the Mental Welfare Fund.

### **Industrial Class.**

This class, organised for youths over the age of 16 years unfit for employment, continues with shoe repairing and simple carpentry for those youths who are not physically handicapped. These latter continue with rug-making, etc.

### **Medical Attention.**

Members of each Class have the facilities of the School Medical Services and many have received medical, dental and orthopaedic treatment at the School Clinic.

### **Special Reports.**

1. The kindness of the Transport Committee in granting bus passes to children living at a distance from the Centre contributes largely to the good attendance.
2. Certain defectives, unable to attend owing to physical defect, are visited by a member of the Occupation Centre Staff, who instructs them in rug-making, knitting, etc.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was necessary under the Public Health Act of 1936 (compulsory removal of patients to Hospital) nor under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, dealing with milk.

### NOTIFICATIONS.

109 notifications were received during the year, but some were duplicates, so that the total number of new cases was 103, of whom 84 were certified to be suffering from "pulmonary" and 19 from "non-pulmonary" tuberculosis.

Compared with 1937, there was a decrease of 30 in "pulmonary" cases and a decrease of 2 in "non-pulmonary" forms.

Table I gives the new cases and deaths as to age distribution during 1938.

**Table I**

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ..	—	—	3	2	—	—	1	2
5—10 ..	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 ..	1	3	3	2	—	—	—	—
15—20 ..	2	5	—	2	—	3	—	—
20—25 ..	2	7	—	1	3	7	1	—
25—35 ..	5	14	1	1	5	10	1	—
35—45 ..	10	6	—	1	5	8	—	—
45—55 ..	10	4	1	—	9	3	1	—
55—65 ..	5	4	—	—	3	3	—	—
Above 65	3	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
Totals ..	39	45	9	10	29	35	4	2

Table II

**New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the  
Medical Officer of Health during 1938, otherwise  
than by notification on Form A or B**

Age Period—	0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Ab. 65	Total
Pulmonary—Males	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	3	—	6
Pulmonary—Females	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Non-Pulmonary— Males .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Non-Pulmonary— Females .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

It is to be noted that 9 cases, as against 18 in 1937, and 23 in 1936, came to our notice in other ways than by primary notification.

The sources of information from which Table II is made are the weekly death returns, cases transferred from other areas, hospitals, Sanatoria, etc.

#### EXTENT OF TUBERCULOSIS IN WALSALL.

During the year, in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, the Tuberculosis Register has been carefully revised, and the names of all patients who have given satisfactory evidence of complete recovery from the disease have been removed.

At the end of the year there remained on the register 467 persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, 240 males and 227 females, and 90 persons, 46 males and 44 females, suffering from forms of tuberculosis other than pulmonary, a total on the register of 557.

#### MORTALITY.

From Table I it will be noted that 70 deaths were registered as due to some form of Tuberculosis, and of these, 64 were “pulmonary” and 6 “non-pulmonary” forms.

There has been a large decrease in the mortality as compared with 1937 in both the “pulmonary,” and “non-pulmonary” groups.

The death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis has decreased from 0.92 in 1937, to 0.66 in 1938, and the death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis has decreased from 0.78 in 1937 to 0.60. This is the lowest rate yet recorded.

The following table gives the number of cases which were not notified at all, or were notified within a few weeks of death or after death.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis
Total Deaths .. .. .	64	6
Cases not notified .. .. .	3	1
Cases notified after death .. .	—	—
Death within 2 weeks of notification ..	8	4
Death within 6 weeks of notification ..	6	—

There were 4 cases not notified at all; the ratio of these to the total deaths is 5.7%.

**Table III**  
**Showing Attack Rate and Death Rate in Walsall since 1916**

Year	Attack Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate per 1,000 Population	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1916 ..	4.49	1.11	1.73	0.17
1917 ..	2.61	0.75	1.49	0.37
1918 ..	2.43	0.39	1.49	0.37
1919 ..	3.05	0.71	1.15	0.36
1920 ..	2.18	0.67	0.79	0.13
1921 ..	2.42	0.62	0.93	0.18
1922 ..	2.11	0.57	1.29	0.20
1923 ..	1.93	0.59	0.92	0.20
1924 ..	1.66	0.67	0.89	0.24
1925 ..	1.99	0.83	0.99	0.21
1926 ..	1.61	0.58	0.84	0.30
1927 ..	1.86	0.40	0.97	0.14
1928 ..	1.87	0.43	1.03	0.30
1929 ..	1.88	0.55	1.04	0.16
1930 ..	1.45	0.26	0.98	0.13
1931 ..	1.37	0.30	0.93	0.10
1932 ..	1.03	0.45	0.76	0.18
1933 ..	1.20	0.22	1.03	0.12
1934 ..	1.06	0.30	0.82	0.11
1935 ..	1.21	0.23	0.63	0.12
1936 ..	1.29	0.13	0.78	0.04
1937 ..	1.07	0.20	0.78	0.14
1938 ..	0.78	0.18	0.60	0.06



THE WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

At the Dispensary, Hatherston Road, 3 sessions are held each week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday), and in addition an evening session is held on the first and third Thursdays in the month.

The work at or in connection with the Dispensary during the year is set out in the following table :—

Table IV

[illegible]

Table IV—continued

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st ..	500	2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years ..	11
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	60	4. Cases written off during the year as dead (all causes) ..	54
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	2578	6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December ..	105
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners— (a) Personal .. .. (b) Other .. ..	— 310	8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations)	93
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes .. ..	2078	10. Number of— (a) Specimens of sputum, etc. examined .. .. (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work .. ..	737 245
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above .. ..	—	12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st .. ..	175

From the above table it will be noted that 117 males, 119 females and 117 children under the age of 15, a total of 353, were examined for the first time during the year as against 371 in 1937. Of that number, 16 males, 27 females and 36 children were examined as being contacts of known cases of Tuberculosis. Thus 22.4% of the total examinations were contacts, compared with 26.1% of the total in 1937.

Of the total, 82 new cases of Tuberculosis were diagnosed, 68 Pulmonary and 14 Non-pulmonary, thus 23.2% of new cases attending proved to be Tuberculous. 17.7% of contacts were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

**Table V**  
**PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS**

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates			Previous to 1938					1938						
			Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus				Class T.B. minus	Class T.B. plus					
				Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total		Group 1.	Group 2.	Group 3.	Total		
Remaining on Dispensary Register on 31st December, 1938.	Disease Arrested	Adults	M.	33	10	19	1	30	-	-	-	-	-	
			F.	47	6	7	2	15	-	-	-	-	-	
		Children		21	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
	Disease not Arrested	Adults	M.	35	9	25	7	41	2	-	16	4	20	
			F.	16	6	25	6	37	5	1	14	6	21	
		Children		12	1	1	1	3	5	-	1	1	2	
	Condition not ascertained during the year				28	2	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	
	Total on Dispensary Register at 31st December .. .. .				192	35	80	17	132	12	1	31	11	43

Not now on Dispensary Register and reasons for removal therefrom.	Discharged as Recovered	Adults	M.	90	5	2	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	
			F.	112	5	3	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	
		Children		110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Lost sight of, or otherwise removed from Dispensary Register .. .. .				545	32	38	7	77	-	-	1	-	1
	Dead	Adults	M.	107	42	141	136	319	2	-	-	6	6	
			F.	73	43	110	122	275	3	-	-	2	2	
		Children		19	6	4	6	16	-	-	-	-	-	
	Total written off Dispensary Register ..				1056	133	298	271	702	5	-	1	8	9
	Grand Total .. .. .				1248	168	378	288	834	17	1	32	19	52



Table V—continued

## NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

Condition at the time of the last record made during the year to which the Return relates			Previous to 1938					1938					
			Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands	Total	
(a) Remaining on Dispensary Register on 31st December, 1938.	Disease Arrested	Adults	M.	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
			F.	—	1	2	2	5	—	—	—	—	—
		Children		18	5	4	5	32	—	—	—	—	—
	Disease not Arrested	Adults	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
			F.	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	1	1	3
		Children		3	—	—	1	4	1	5	—	4	10
	Condition not ascertained during the year			—	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total on Dispensary Register at 31st December .. .. .			24	7	9	8	48	2	5	1	6	14	
Transferred to Pulmonary .. .. .			1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Not now on Dispensary Register and reasons for removal therefrom.	Discharged as Recovered	Adults	M.	7	1	2	3	13	—	—	—	—	—
			F.	5	2	3	5	15	—	—	—	—	—
		Children		36	47	8	48	139	—	—	—	—	—
	Lost sight of, or otherwise removed from Dispensary Register .. .. .			33	38	24	67	162	—	—	—	—	—
	Dead	Adults	M.	4	1	2	2	9	—	—	—	—	—
			F.	1	1	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
		Children		8	4	3	3	18	—	—	—	—	—
Total written off Dispensary Register ..			94	94	43	129	360	—	—	—	—	—	
Grand Totals of (a) and (b) (excluding those transferred to Pulmonary) .. .. .			118	101	52	137	408	2	5	1	6	14	



From Tables IV and V it will be noted that in 175 cases, or 46.2% of the total Pulmonary Cases on the Dispensary Register, Tubercle Bacilli were found in the sputum, and 62 cases, or 14.1% of the total on the Dispensary Register were Non-pulmonary cases.

#### DOMICILIARY TREATMENT.

During the year 146 patients received this form of treatment from their own medical attendants, and 150 quarterly reports were received from them as to their physical condition and progress under their care.

#### EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

60 patients on the recommendation of the Tuberculosis Officer, were supplied with extra nourishment at a total cost of approximately £200. The Civic Guild of Help have again rendered valuable assistance to the Tuberculosis After-Care Committee in carrying out any necessary investigation as to the financial circumstances of patients.

#### SURGICAL TUBERCULOSIS.

On the 1st of January, 1938, there were 6 children and 1 adult under treatment for surgical tuberculosis, 3 cases of hip disease and one case of spinal disease at the Forelands, 2 cases of hip disease at the Woodlands, and one case of hip disease at the Warwickshire Orthopaedic Hospital.

During the year one case of spinal disease, 5 cases of hip disease and one case of disease of the elbow were admitted.

8 cases of hip disease and one case of disease of the elbow were discharged.

At the end of the year 3 children and 1 adult remained under treatment at the Hospitals under the control of the Royal Cripples' Hospital, and 1 child at the Warwickshire Orthopaedic Hospital.

#### ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT CLINIC.

32 patients suffering from various non-pulmonary forms of tuberculosis were treated by means of ultra violet light at the clinic at No. 3 Hatherton Road. The clinic is open all day on Tuesday and Thursday

and is conducted by one of our masseuses who is fully competent and qualified to give treatment. Two mercury vapour lamps are in use, the one a K.B.B. and the other a Hanovia.

578 attendances for treatment were made by these patients during the year, 20 patients being discharged from treatment as follows :—

Cured 1; Very Much Improved 5; Improved 6; Discontinued treatment 8.

#### HOME VISITS.

During the year the Nurse paid 144 first visits and 1,934 re-visits to the houses of the patients.

In only 43 cases were patients found to have a separate bedroom, and in 9 cases the patient had a separate bed, in a room shared with others.

As regards cleanliness and ventilation, the following is a summary of the conditions ascertained.

Clean 119; Fairly clean 20; Dirty 5.

#### HOUSING OF TUBERCULOUS FAMILIES.

The Health Committee have twentyfour Council houses allocated to them for the re-housing of tuberculous persons.

#### NURSING OF ACUTE OR BEDRIDDEN PATIENTS.

During the year the District Nurses from the Victoria Nursing Institution have continued to give the necessary attention to all the tuberculous cases referred to them by the Tuberculosis Officer. The arrangement, which came into operation in 1925, has been found in practice to be a most excellent one, the visits of skilled nurses to the homes of the patients have been much appreciated, having added greatly to the comfort of bedridden patients during an acute stage of their illness or during the last few weeks of life.

The Lady Superintendent of the Victoria Nursing Institution sends the following report :—

Excellent work has been done in co-operation with the Health Committee of the Town Council in combating tuberculosis, and the following particulars deal with this section only.

During the year ended 31st December, 1938, 30 cases of Tuberculosis were dealt with.

The numbers are as follows :—

Brought forward from 1937 ..	11
New cases .. .. .	19
	—
Total .. .. .	30
	—

Of these, the visits to 7 were discontinued, 9 died, 5 have been admitted to Hospital or Sanatoria, and there are 9 remaining on the books.

A total of 3,011 visits have been paid to these cases during the year.

Appliances have been loaned out as follows :—

Air Rings, 18; Bed Rests, 13; Mackintosh Sheets, 7; Nursing Utensils, 22; Spinal Carriages, 3; Douching Apparatus, 2.

Surgical dressings have been done in 8 cases and dressings supplied to 1. Temperature charts have been kept in 9 cases and enemata administered to 3. Poultices have been applied to 4 patients and hypodermic injections given to 1. Vaginal douches were given in 2 cases. Nourishment from our Sick Relief Fund has been given to 7 patients.

All patients who are unable to do so for themselves are blanket-bathed once weekly, and in addition are washed daily, the head, back, heels, and all dependent parts, also the mouth cleansed daily. Many of our patients are in such an advanced condition that they need the greatest care and handling, which means longer time devoted to them than others less ill.

Table VI.

**Number of Beds available for the treatment of Tuberculosis in  
Institutions on the 31st December, 1938**

Name of Institution	For Pulmonary Cases		For Non-Pulmonary Cases		Total
	Adults	Children under 15	Adults	Children under 15	
Pelsall Sanatorium. . . .	29	8	—	—	37
Goscote Sanatorium, Walsall	22	—	—	—	22
Royal Cripples' Hospitals, Birmingham	—	—	2	7	9
					68

#### INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

In the previous tables as supplied to the Ministry of Health, are given details of patients belonging to Walsall who have received Institutional Treatment under the Local Tuberculosis Scheme, whether at Pelsall Sanatorium, Goscote Sanatorium, or at any other Institution to which they have been sent by the Local Authority.

From Table VI it will be seen that an average of 68 beds have been available for Walsall patients, and from Table VIII that 109 patients were admitted to these beds during the year, 95 being discharged and 18 having a fatal termination.

#### PELSALL SANATORIUM

On January 1st, 1938, there were 6 males, 7 females and 5 children under treatment.

During the year, 25 males, 27 females and 9 children were admitted, and 16 males, 25 females and 14 children discharged.

There were 8 deaths, 5 males and 3 females. In 17 of the male and 21 of the female patients, tubercle bacilli were found in the sputum.

1 Ex-Serviceman, chargeable to the Ministry of Pensions, received treatment at the Sanatorium during the year.

Of the total admissions, 25 had previously had a course of sanatorium treatment, 3 were classified as T.B. plus I, 25 as T.B. plus II, 10 as T.B. plus III, 12 as T.B. minus, and 11 cases were admitted for the purposes of observation.



Table VIII.

Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment and Observation during the year in Institutions (other than Poor Law Institutions) approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

		In Institutions on Jan. 1	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in the Institutions	In Institutions on Dec. 31
Number of doubtfully tuberculous cases admitted for observation	Adult males	—	4	3	1	—
	Adult females	—	3	3	—	—
	Children	5	8	13	—	—
	Total	5	15	19	1	—
Number of definitely tuberculous patients admitted for treatment	Adult males	18	46	32	10	22
	Adult females	18	43	36	7	18
	Children	6	5	8	—	3
	Total	42	94	76	17	43
GRAND TOTAL	..	47	109	95	18	43

### GOSCOTE SANATORIUM

On January 1st, 1938, there were under treatment 11 males, and 11 females.

During the year, 24 males and 24 females and 1 child were admitted, and 18 males, 21 females discharged.

There were 10 deaths, 6 males and 4 females. In 14 of the male and 20 of the female patients, tubercle bacilli were found in the sputum.

Of the total admissions, 15 had previously had a course of sanatorium treatment, 2 were classified as T.B. plus I, 21 as T.B. plus II, 11 as T.B. plus III, 11 as T.B. minus and 4 cases were admitted for the purposes of observation.

Table VII

Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely Tuberculous Patients discharged during the year from Institutions approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis

Classification on admission to the Institution	CONDITION AT TIME OF DISCHARGE	DURATION OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT IN THE INSTITUTION															GRAND TOTAL	
		Under 3 months			3—6 months			6—12 months			More than 12 months							
		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.			Ch.
			Ch.	Ch.		Ch.	Ch.		Ch.	Ch.		Ch.	Ch.		Ch.	Ch.		
Class T.B. minus	Quiescent .. ..	5	4	..	1	2	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	7	7	1	15	
	Not Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	Died in Institution .. ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	
Class T.B. plus Group 1	Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	
	Not Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	
	Died in Institution .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Class T.B. plus Group 2	Quiescent .. ..	..	2	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	3	..	5	
	Not Quiescent .. ..	2	6	..	1	5	..	5	4	..	2	1	..	10	16	..	26	
	Died in Institution .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	3	

Peripheral Glands	Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	2
	Not Quiescent .. ..	1	1	1	1	3	2	..	..	2	2	..	7	6	..	13
	Died in Institution .. ..	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	4	3	..	7
	Quiescent .. ..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	2	..	6	8
	Not Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Died in Institution .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Not Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Died in Institution .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abdominal	Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Not Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Died in Institution .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bones and Joints	Quiescent .. ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	2	6	8
	Not Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Died in Institution .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Class T.B. plus Group 3	Quiescent .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	2
	Not Quiescent .. ..	1	1	1	1	3	2	..	..	2	2	..	..	7	6	13
	Died in Institution .. ..	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	4	3	7

## TUBERCULOSIS AFTER-CARE COMMITTEE

The work of the Committee has proceeded steadily throughout the year and appropriate grants have been made from time to time to improve the condition of the patients.

Of the general funds, the balance in hand at the beginning of the year was approximately £24, the income has been £32, and the expenditure £33, leaving a balance in hand at the close of the financial year of approximately £23.

Of the Califra Bequest, the balance in hand at the beginning of the year was approximately £21, interest on capital invested and amount of income tax refund £14; expenditure £10. The balance in hand at the end of the year was approximately £25 in addition to the sum of £300 invested.

Necessitous cases have been provided with gifts of clothing by the Civic Guild of Help, and 60 patients have received extra nourishment for varying periods throughout the year.

198 reports on cases have been submitted, and 237 home visits paid by the Civic Guild of Help.

At Christmas, 27 deserving cases who were under the care of the Committee each received a gift of clothing.

In addition, the Committee has, from time to time, throughout the year, made grants of clothing and boots, bedclothes, and monetary allowances to patients in necessitous circumstances.

Various ex-Service organizations have assisted patients by making clothing, sickness and monetary grants; maintenance grants have also been obtained to help families during the husband's absence from home whilst undergoing medical treatment.

The Guild of Help continues, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, to carry out the work of investigation on behalf of the Committee, and to report at the meetings. We are indebted to the Guild for the valuable assistance they have given to the Committee.

The After-Care Committee have subscribed three guineas to the Walsall Winter Convalescent Fund.



**WALSALL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.**

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**REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER**

**For the Year ended 31st December, 1938.**

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Report on the School Medical Services for the year ended December 31st, 1938.

**1. STAFF.**

There have been no changes in the staff during the year.

Early in the year the Health Committee appointed Mr. E. C. Naylor Strong, F.R.C.S. as an Ear and Throat Consultant at the Manor Hospital, and the Education Committee and their medical officers have been fortunate in having, as from 1st April, Mr. Strong's advice and services in dealing with the many cases of discharging ears, accompanied or not by various degrees of deafness, with which the school medical service has to deal. The arrangement has been of the very greatest benefit to the school medical service.

**2. SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.**

- (a) 16 provided Schools with 40 departments; of these
- (b) 11 are Senior Schools, and
- (c) 2 are Central Schools with one department each.
- (d) 11 non-provided Schools with 18 departments, of these
- (e) 2 are Senior Schools.
- (f) 1 Open-Air Day School.
- (g) The Beacon Residential School, Lichfield, for mentally defective children.

The number of children on the register at 31st December, 1938, was 15,948,, and the average attendance during the year was 14,601 (excluding the Beacon Residential School).

### 3. SCHOOL HYGIENE AND SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

Two departments, junior and infants, of the new Harden School were opened during the year. This fine new school is situated in the midst of a very large housing estate and is in all respects an ideal school.

I had hoped to be able to report this year that the sanitary conveniences at all the schools in the borough had now been overhauled and modernized, but unfortunately it was not found possible to carry out any of this work in the only three schools which possess the old fashioned trough closets. I sincerely trust that this necessary work will be accomplished during the coming year.

The washing accommodation at Croft Street Infants School is also in urgent need of improvement, being totally inadequate at the present time.

### 4. INSTRUCTION IN MOTHERCRAFT.

The courses of instruction in Mothercraft conducted by the Health Visitors and which we instituted a few years ago have become a very popular feature with the senior girls. The syllabus includes instruction on the proper care of the infant, the importance of cleanliness, fresh air and correct feeding, common infantile ailments and the training of the toddler. The talks are accompanied by demonstrations at the infant welfare centres wherever possible. At the end of each course the senior girls are set an examination paper and from the care with which the various questions are answered, it is clear that these courses are of real value and are greatly appreciated.

### 5. MEDICAL INSPECTION.

During the year, 5,432 children were examined at routine inspections as follows :—

Entrants .. .. .	1,816
Second Age Group .. .. .	1,685
Third Age Group .. .. .	1,831
Other Routine Inspections .. .. .	100
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .. .. .	5,432
	<hr/>

as against 5,132 in 1937; 566 children were re-inspected, as against 1,313; and 6,873 special inspections were made, as against 6,079.

Of individual children re-inspected in the schools, it was found that in 187 cases satisfactory treatment had been obtained and the defect remedied, in 172 cases treatment had produced considerable improvement, but in 207 cases no treatment of any kind had been obtained. Further follow-up visits to the homes were made in these cases which would be kept under observation.

## **6. CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS AND ENQUIRY OFFICERS.**

Parents are invited to be present at the routine medical inspection of their children and we are gratified by the large percentage of those parents who do attend, in fact the number of parents who attend these inspections increases each year, particularly in the case of children belonging to the entrant and second age groups. In the case of the entrants, 86% of the parents notified attended the medical inspection, whilst in the case of the second age group 77% attended, and in the third age group 51%, a total percentage of 71.

We are indebted to head teachers and the members of their staffs for facilitating the work of the medical and nursing staffs, for their valuable co-operation in establishing contact between the parents and ourselves and for the interest they take in the subnormal child. To the enquiry officers we are also grateful for the assistance they are ready to give us at all times.

To the officers of the local branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children we give thanks for much valuable assistance during the year.

## **7. THE RESULTS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.**

13.1% or 713 children out of a total of 5,432 examined at the routine inspections were found to require treatment for one or other defect. In the case of the entrants, 172 or 9.5%, in the second age group, 251 or 14.9%, in the third age group, 275 or 15.0%, and of other routine inspections, 15 children. Defective vision was again the most common defect found, 218 children requiring treatment for errors of refraction, and 21 for squint. In all, 531 special examinations were made for errors of refraction and squint. Spectacles were prescribed in 354 cases and in 349 actually obtained—an excellent result, for which our thanks are due to the nursing staff for their careful “follow-up” of cases.



Enlarged tonsils or adenoids were found in 187 cases. Operative treatment was obtained in 129 cases, 32 under the Authority's scheme, and 97 privately or at other Hospitals.

Physical deformity was noted in 75 cases, of which the most common was spinal curvature, 34 children suffering from this defect.

Following upon the medical inspection in the schools, the health visitors paid 821 visits to children in their own homes. In addition to spending 241 half-days at medical inspections in the schools, they paid 652 visits to the schools for the purpose of cleanliness inspections, 53,850 children being examined. 3,285 individual children were found to be suffering from verminous conditions of head or body and 1,466 notes were sent to parents respecting these children.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year in such cases, either under the Education Act, 1921, or under the School Attendance Bye-Laws.

## 8. MALNUTRITION.

Particular attention has again been paid to the nutrition of the children in attendance at the elementary schools, although it has not been found possible to carry out anything in the nature of a complete nutritional survey as recommended by the Board of Education (Circular 1443).

Of the 5,432 children examined in the course of the routine medical inspections, in 89% nutrition was considered to be either excellent (3.85%) or normal (84.87%). In 11.25% nutrition was stated to be slightly subnormal, and in only 2 children was nutrition recorded as being bad.

In this connection it is interesting to note that the number of free dinners supplied during the year was 46,931 as against 44,786 supplied during the previous year, whilst the number of "milk meals" supplied rose from 127,105 to 176,101.

During the year 1,672 individual children received either a mid-day meal or free milk, as against 1,226 during 1937. 275 children received a mid-day dinner, and 1,424 milk meals (27 children receiving both mid-day and milk meals at different periods during the year). 207 children were receiving dinners at the end of the year, 1,176 being in receipt of milk.



The arrangements for the feeding of necessitous school children remain as in former years, the mid-day meals are frequently overhauled so as to afford an adequate variety. All children who receive either dinners or milk are weighed and measured at monthly intervals, and are kept under regular medical supervision.

### **MILK MARKETING BOARD SCHEME.**

In addition to the children referred to above, 5,497 children were receiving milk under the Milk Marketing Board Scheme as compared with 5,403 at the end of 1937.

There is only one junior school and one infant school which have not yet adopted the scheme and the number of children in these schools who were receiving milk substitutes, cocoa, etc., was 678, compared with 1,277 at the end of 1937.

### **9. THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL CLINIC.**

The School Clinics have been well attended during the past year. The numbers remained unusually high during the summer months as the lack of sunshine caused a good deal of minor sickness.

Although the clinics remain open during the school holidays, parents do not take sufficient advantage of this fact and injuries and sores are allowed to go unattended until they need several weeks treatment from the nurses when the schools reopen.

Parents and teachers have sent delicate children to the clinics to be examined as to fitness for the new Physical Training undertaken by the Education Authority.

An additional afternoon Clinic has been arranged for the Bloxwich district. This has been well attended and has had the result of lessening the congestion on Friday afternoons.

Structural repairs have been undertaken to the floor of the Bradford Street Clinic as the old one was becoming unsafe.

The Education Committee now have the services of an Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist at the Manor Hospital and a large number of cases (164) have been referred to him from the Clinics.

Two cases of severe eye injury were admitted to Wolverhampton Eye Infirmary; one of these made a complete recovery.

During the year 10,096 attendances were made at Bradford Street, 6,291 at Littleton Street, and 6,457 at Field Road Clinics, as against 10,946, 6,291 and 5,392 respectively.

## 10. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

The number of school children seen for the first time during the year was 340 against 319. In addition, 64 cases were sent from areas under the control of the Staffordshire County Council, and from the Borough of Wednesbury.

391 Walsall cases were seen by the Surgeon-Specialist during the year (340 Education, 9 Tuberculosis, 39 Maternity and Child Welfare and 3 special cases). 1,137 attendances were made by these patients for treatment.

In the following tables is given an analysis of the work done at the Clinic :

	Examined
Paralysis .. .. .	35
Congenital Deformities .. .. .	21
Tuberculosis .. .. .	28
Scoliosis .. .. .	63
Foot Deformities .. .. .	116
Postural Deformities .. .. .	43
Knock Knees .. .. .	17
Bow Legs .. .. .	5
Torticollis .. .. .	7
Other Cases .. .. .	56
	<hr/>
Total ..	391
	<hr/>

129 school children were removed from the register as follows—

Cured .. .. .	71
Improved .. .. .	5
Non-attendance .. .. .	6
Refused treatment .. .. .	9
Referred to other Clinics .. .. .	11
No treatment advised .. .. .	15
Others .. .. .	12
	<hr/>
Total ..	129
	<hr/>

At the Massage Clinic 189 Walsall cases were dealt with (Education 170, Maternity and Child Welfare 16, and 3 other cases), these cases making 5,774 attendances for treatment.

The cases dealt with included :—

Scoliosis	..	..	..	..	..	99 cases
Flat Feet	..	..	..	..	..	46 „
Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	8 „
Anterior Poliomyelitis			..	..	..	5 „
Infantile Hemiplegia			..	..	..	8 „
Congenital Deformities			..	..	..	4 „
Birth Palsy	..	..	..	..	..	2 „
Torticollis	..	..	..	..	..	2 „
Monoplegia	..	..	..	..	..	3 „
Other conditions	..	..	..	..	..	12 „

117 cases were discharged from treatment during the year (Education 105, Maternity and Child Welfare 12), the results being as follows :

Admitted to

			Cured	Improved	Hospital
Scoliosis	..	..	23	26	—
Flat Feet	..	..	7	20	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis		..	—	3	—
Rickets	..	..	2	2	—
Infantile Hemiplegia		..	—	3	—
Other Congenital					
Deformities	..	..	—	3	—
Torticollis	..	..	—	1	—
Monoplegia	..	..	—	1	—
Other Conditions		..	2	6	—
			34	65	—

4 ceased attendance, 3 refused further treatment, and 1 continued treatment under his own medical attendant, 6 were transferred to other Hospitals and 4 were transferred to the School Medical Scheme.

10 Education cases were admitted from the Walsall Clinic for in-patient treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital or at The Woodlands.

Staffordshire Education and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees continue to send their cases to our Clinic, as do also the Wednesbury Education and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees.

During the year, 115 cases (making 397 attendances) sent by these authorities were seen by the Surgeon at the Clinic; 36 attended the

Massage Department for treatment, and these cases made 920 attendances.

### 11. ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT CLINIC.

The arrangements at this clinic are as in former years, there being no change in the equipment nor in the routine methods of dosage or treatment.

79 school children were treated during the year and they made 1,938 attendances for treatment.

The following is a summary of the conditions treated :—

Debility .. .. .	43
Alopecia .. .. .	4
Eye affections .. .. .	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	9
Rheumatism .. .. .	5
Tuberculosis .. .. .	7
Other conditions .. .. .	10
	—
	79
	—

72 children were discharged from treatment, the results being as follows :—

	Cured	Very much Improved	Improved	Discontinued Treatment	Total
Debility .. .. .	3	14	13	10	40
Alopecia .. .. .	1	—	1	1	3
Eye affections .. .. .	1	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	—	2	2	3	7
Tuberculosis .. .. .	—	—	2	2	4
Other conditions	2	1	4	5	12
Rheumatism	—	1	1	3	5

### 12. PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

We are indebted to Mr. A. J. Spears and Miss I. Munden, the advisory teachers, for the following interesting review of their work in physical training during the past year. Mr. Spears reports as follows:

“Reference was made in past reports to the improvement of facilities and provision of equipment for physical training regarded as necessary for carrying out a satisfactory scheme in the schools. It can be said for the year under review that all departments possess the means of



accomplishing a valuable training for the scholars, and that teachers have devoted themselves energetically to the task of using their resources for an all round improvement in physical standards.

Education Week which was held from 15th to 21st May, included many interesting and skilful demonstrations of the various branches of physical education. Massed displays of gymnastics and dancing were given on the Walsall Football Ground, and a point worthy of note is that practically every department in the town provided a class of 40 children to take part in four representative displays. The work was most ably carried out in the schools and created a standard which has since been well maintained.

### **Organised Games.**

Coaching for the major games of football and cricket is proceeding steadily. The tendency to spend the games period solely on playing the major game is decreasing with the realisation that a higher standard for all boys is achieved by the inclusion of specific coaching practices in every lesson. It is recommended that more coaching in simple athletics be introduced into the games lesson in the spring and summer terms.

The present position with regard to playing spaces is as follows :—

Fields controlled by the Education Committee	..	17 acres
Fields rented from private sources	.. ..	17 acres
Fields in the public recreation grounds	.. ..	123 acres
		————
Total		157 acres
		————

From the point of view of acreage the schools appear reasonably equipped. Some schools are too far removed from the fields to make the best use of them. The public parks do not offer changing facilities, storage for apparatus or shelter. When children have walked some distance from school, unexpected storms have proved more than a little disturbing. Without question the ideal conditions obtain on the fields owned and maintained by the Education Committee.

### **Swimming.**

The Baths Parks and Cemeteries Committee have again granted very liberal use of the two swimming baths to the schools.

The time-tables provided for 100 working periods per week, making it possible for 3,000 children to benefit by instruction. There are, of

course, double this number eligible for swimming, but their inclusion would only be possible if an additional bath were constructed in the town. Future policy should be directed towards making swimming a regular time-table lesson for all children of 10 or 11 years upwards unless exclusion is necessary on medical grounds.

The work of the Walsall Schools' Swimming and Life-Saving Association has indeed progressed. The aims of the Association are well directed towards teaching good technique in watermanship, not solely for speed in competitive work but also for attaining the awards of the Royal Life-Saving Society. The standard tests for proficiency and other certificates have been designed to forward these aims.

The total number of certificates awarded to boys and girls during 1938 is 835.

The R.L.S.S. awards gained were :—

Elementary certificates	..	..	..	111
Intermediate certificates	..	..	..	41
Bronze Medallions	..	..	..	10

These results have been achieved by the voluntary efforts of the teachers, and are made possible by the issue of "free passes." The Education Committee awarded 482 such passes to scholars who reached the required standard; the minimum requirement involving ability to swim 100 yards.

### **Recreational Classes.**

There has been no increase in the number of classes, while the attendances have not revealed any substantial increase. Those who attended the "keep-fit" and games training groups testify to the physical benefits they derive. The summer classes on the playing fields were popular.

A training course for men leaders is now in progress, so that there should be no dearth of men capable of giving a sound recreational training should the demand for classes increase."

The following is Miss Munden's report :—

"The standard of physical training in the schools is rising steadily. Teachers and children alike are keen and enthusiastic and much good work has been done. The correct fundamentals of training are being applied, and less obvious features such as the necessity for relaxation and controlled out put of energy are beginning to receive attention. The subject will be more worthy of its name "Physical Education"

when more is done to increase the children's understanding of their exercises, how they should be done, why they do them, how their bodies function—and to strengthen the link with practical hygiene and health education.

Two Refresher Courses for women teachers have been held, one for teachers in junior schools and another much needed course for the training of Keep-Fit Leaders. Both courses were well attended, and the work has been passed on with satisfactory results.

Education Week in May gave the schools an opportunity to show what they had been doing latterly. Massed displays of gymnastics and dancing by senior boys and girls and junior boys and girls, proved to be of interest to a large audience of parents, friends and teachers, and reflected a good standard and spirit.

Two further meetings for mothers of senior girls have been held and proved of practical value in gaining the parents' co-operation and interest in the school's effort to aid their daughters health and development.

Adult classes in Evening Institutes have continued, both in Keep-Fit and Dancing, with the addition of two classes for Central European Dancing. Keep-Fit classes for mothers and older women have increased from three to nine, and at the modest cost of twopence an hour, are proving well attended and popular. Members of the classes express their appreciation of the increased feeling of youth and vigour which the classes give them."

### 13. TREATMENT OF RINGWORM.

Since the treatment of ringworm of the scalp by means of X-rays was instituted some years ago the number of cases of this very unpleasant and distressing disease occurring in the elementary schools has been steadily declining. Only one case of ringworm of the scalp was reported during the year, and as it was fortunately discovered early and speedily cleared up under treatment, recourse to X-ray treatment was unnecessary.

### 14. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

**Non-notifiable Disease.** Measles was prevalent during the last quarter of the year, 141 cases out of a total of 175 being notified during the last two months of the year. Fortunately it was of a mild type and there were no deaths.



Whooping Cough was also prevalent, 261 cases being notified, the majority of these occurring in the early part of the year.

284 cases of mumps were notified, the bulk of the cases occurring during the first half of the year.

125 cases of chickenpox were notified, the cases being spread fairly evenly throughout the year.

**Notifiable Disease.** **Scarlet Fever** has been much less prevalent than it has been for some years, 192 cases occurring amongst school children out of a total of 296 cases notified to the Health Department, as against 287 and 442 respectively in the previous year. The disease was on the whole of a particularly mild type, and there were no deaths.

**Diphtheria.** 121 cases of diphtheria were notified to the Health Department during the year as against 175 in 1937. Of this total 84 were children of school age.

During the year 894 children were immunised against diphtheria compared with 811 in the previous year, 813 being immunised at the schools in the borough and 81 at the various hospitals and clinics. Toxoid Antitoxin Mixture (T.A.M.) or Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules (T.A.F.) have again been used as the immunising agents. Of 684 children immunised in previous years and who came forward for retest, only 17 were found to have retained their susceptibility to the disease, and 16 of these received further treatment. Of 277 children immunised with Alum Precipitated Toxin (A.P.T.) during 1935 and 1936, 7 were found to be susceptible, whilst 10 children previously treated with Toxoid Antitoxin Mixture out of 407 retested were likewise found to be susceptible.

10,705 school children have now been immunised in Walsall during the past eleven years, and during that time we have had 11 cases of clinical diphtheria amongst these protected children, all of whom have recovered. Amongst unprotected children there have been, during the same period, 1,038 cases of clinical diphtheria with 101 deaths.

The number of children immunised annually in Walsall represents approximately 40-45% of the total births and although this is a figure which is reached by few towns of a similar size, we feel that progress in this direction is slow, and that we are not yet protecting a sufficiently large number of children. We are constantly impressing upon parents the dangers of this disease, and the ease with which protection can be



afforded, but as we were informed on a recent occasion "Diphtheria is not News."

**Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.** Three cases of infantile paralysis were notified amongst school children. In one case the diagnosis was not confirmed, one child died, the other remaining under treatment for residual paralysis at the end of the year.

## 15. OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

We have pleasure in including the following most interesting report furnished by the Headmistress, Miss C. A. Claydon, upon the work of the Open Air School.

"Once again it is satisfactory to report that a year of steady work has produced most beneficial effects upon the health and progress of the scholars.

As the school has now been opened nearly twenty years, it may be of interest to some to recall the purpose for which it was established :—

It must first be noted that the children chosen for attendance here are those whose physique is so sub-normal that they cannot work at the pace required by the curriculum of an ordinary school, or in the more confined conditions existing there.

The main aims of the school may be summarised as follows :—

- (1) By a well-balanced routine of suitable work, recreation, meals, and rest in the open air, so to restore the health of the children that they can again take up their work in ordinary schools, or in after-school posts.
- (2) To advance the education of these usually retarded children as far as their health and abilities will allow.
- (3) To train them (through the home-like routine of meal-times etc.) in mutual helpfulness, in consideration for others, and in courage to attack practical difficulties.
- (4) To inspire the children with a love of nature, and of open-air pursuits, which may endure through life.

A very important factor in building up the health of the scholars is, of course, the good food supplied to them. Milk is provided for each child with the mid-morning lunch ; and the mid-day meals are appetizing as well as nourishing. During the past year a three-weekly menu has been worked out, so as to give the dinners a pleasing variety ; and most of the children eat their meals with keen appetite. The tonic

malt which follows is also taken with enjoyment, and is having a good effect upon the health of all. Both Mr. F. Taylor, H.M.I. and Dr. Alford of the Board of Education have visited us at dinnertimes recently, and expressed their satisfaction with the menus and with the arrangements for serving the dinners.

The average length of the children's stay in this school is now 18 months. During this period the School Medical Inspector exercises close supervision over their progress, and the Medical Officer of Health also shews a keen interest in the work. Dr. Adam pays monthly visits to the school, and arranges for the return of children to their own schools when health is re-established.

Careful monthly records of physical improvement are kept, and these shew gratifying results in increased weight and growth.

Very good reports of the children's happiness, and their response to this type of school life were given by the many parents who visited the school on 17th May, during Education Week. The mothers were delighted, also, with the exhibition of scholars' work, and with the displays of Physical Training and Folk Dancing given by their children on that occasion.

Another happy event of the year was the Christmas teaparty which was given on 21st December. The children looked forward to this event with great pleasure, and themselves made some of the preparations for the festive-looking tables by artistically decorating the picnic plates for use at tea-time. In spite of bitterly cold weather there was a very good attendance for this event, and throughout the preceding week, and the scholars thoroughly enjoyed their ample and dainty meal. The generous spread provided, and the gift which each child received on leaving, were, in great measure, due to the kind help of those parents who were better circumstanced than others. This co-operation is typical of the appreciative attitude of the mothers towards all the efforts made for their children at this school."

## 16. NURSERY CLASSES.

279 children under the age of five years attending Nursery Classes in the various infant schools were medically examined during the autumn term, particular attention being paid to defects of a minor degree. 55 children or 20% were found to be suffering from one or more defect.

The following is a list of the defects found :

	No. of children suffering from	No. of Children requiring treatment
Enlarged Tonsils or Adenoids or both .. .. .	29	4
Heart Disease .. .. .	3	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	11	7
Skin Affections .. .. .	6	6
Physical Defects .. .. .	4	2
Other Conditions .. .. .	8	4
	—	—
	61	24
	—	—

28 children were found to be suffering from enlarged tonsils, 1 from enlarged tonsils and adenoids, 11 from bronchitis and 3 from heart disease. Six children were suffering from septic skin conditions and two from general debility. In each case appropriate action was taken.

#### 17. THE HOLIDAY CAMP.

No alterations have been made to the camp premises during the year. Arrangements were made for the milk in schools scheme to apply to the children attending the Camp and each child in attendance received one-third of a pint of milk per day during its stay. The camp remained open from the end of April to the end of September, during which period 960 children (576 boys and 384 girls) attended, either for a full week or for a week end.

In addition, the Children's Country Holiday Society sent away 107 children, 50 of these to holiday homes in the country and 57 to the seaside.

#### 18. PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

(a) *Blind.* Two totally blind and 6 partially blind children are being educated at various special schools certified for the purpose. In addition 1 blind child is in another Institution and 2 are not attending school, 3 partially blind children are attending elementary schools in the Borough, 5 others not being at school.

(b) *Deaf.* Five totally deaf children are being educated at special schools. 17 partially deaf children are at elementary schools, 1 deaf child not being at school.



(c) *Cripples.* The total number of children suffering from a degree of crippling sufficiently severe to interfere with a child's normal mode of life was 50. Of that number, 26 were in attendance at the elementary schools, 2 at certified schools, and 22 at no school or institution.

(d) *Heart Disease.* 79 children are known to have heart disease of a severe degree, 62 of these being in attendance at the elementary schools, 3 at other institutions and 14 not at school.

The majority of these children are kept under observation at the Rheumatic Clinic which is conducted on Saturday mornings at the Littleton Street Clinic by Dr. L. C. Adam, School Medical Inspector, to whom we are indebted for the following report on the work of the clinic.

### **Rheumatic Clinic.**

In spite of increased numbers and increased attendances at the Rheumatic Clinic, there is still not enough supervision of the rheumatic children in the borough. The attendances are made up by a small number of children whose parents attend faithfully, and a very large number who only attend occasionally, and are then perhaps ill enough to require admission to hospital.

Definite hospital accommodation is needed, and convalescent treatment is also desirable. If a child can be safeguarded from severe rheumatic trouble up to the age of puberty it is less likely to acquire it later, so that the money would be well spent.

A child with a severely damaged heart has a very poor outlook, and the younger the child, the worse the outlook. The Manor Hospital takes in severe cases, and in one instance took a boy whose mother was ill and unable to look after him, although he was not actually confined to bed.

The Tonic Malt provided by the Committee appears to have a beneficial effect, owing to its iron and vitamin content, on the anaemia and debility which is often left by an attack of rheumatism, or which may be its precursor.

Two slum clearance families who suffer from chorea frequently and severely have had fresh attacks in their new homes.

One case of congenital heart disease and one of rheumatic disease have died during the year, and one heart case died in hospital from burns.



No. of cases on register 31st December, 1937	..	..	150
No. of new cases in 1938	..	..	77
No. of cases on register 31st December, 1938	..	..	164
Total attendances of new cases	..	..	201
Total attendances	..	..	487
No. of sessions	..	..	45
Average per session	..	..	10.8

The following are particulars of the cases attending :

<i>Rheumatic.</i>	Males	Females	Total
Cases with heart involvement ..	30	32	62
Cases without heart involvement—			
Post rheumatic anaemia ..	9	11	20
Post rheumatic debility ..	17	25	42
Chorea .. .. .	14	11	25
Total .. .. .	70	79	149
<hr/>			
<i>Non-rheumatic.</i>			
Heart disease—Congenital ..	8	3	11
Debility .. .. .	2	2	4
Total .. .. .	10	5	15

## 19. MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

At the end of the year, the number of educable Mentally Defective (feeble-minded) children was 134 as against 148 at the end of 1937. In addition, 8 children were notified to the Statutory Committee under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1927, as follows :

Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a special school—

(a) Imbeciles .. .. .	4
(b) Others .. .. .	4

Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a special school on or before attaining the age of 16 .. .. . 3

The following report of the work carried out by the Mental Welfare Association for the Education Authority in the way of supervision and after-care has been received.

**Ascertainment at 31st December, 1937.**

Feebleminded	..	..	..	..	..	134
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----

574 visits have been paid to the homes of children during the year. 25 children are in residence at Beacon School, Lichfield.

**Removed from Register.**

Notified to Local Authority	..	..	..	11
Attained age of 16 years	..	..	..	23
Left area	..	..	..	1
				<hr/>
Total	..	..		35
				<hr/>

**New Cases added to Register during the Year.**

Feebleminded	..	..	..	..	..	18
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	----

During the year, 23 boys and girls have left elementary schools on attaining the age of 14 years and are in more or less regular employment. The boys have obtained work as errand boys or in factories and coal mines. The girls have for the most part commenced work in factories. The parents of one girl who is extremely delicate, have purchased a confectionery business in order that she may be usefully employed and at the same time remain under her mother's care. Another very unstable girl has been discharged from or left on her own accord 18 different situations in a little over twelve months.

Three children have left Beacon School, Lichfield, during the year. One upon attaining the age of 16 years, one being withdrawn by his parents at 14 years of age, and the third being discharged as unsuitable for special school training, after having received a twelve months trial at the school. The vacancies thus created have been filled by children whom it is hoped will benefit by the training which the school provides.

Reports are made to the Director of Education, the School Medical Officer and the Headmaster at Beacon School. Quarterly reports are submitted to the school during the year.

Mr. G. F. Taylor (Superintendent of the Beacon School) sends the following report on the work of the school during the year :

"The year has been a happy and successful one. The school has been full to the limit of its accommodation, the health of the children has been good, and in their lessons and other activities many children have made excellent progress.

Of our 77 scholars, Walsall has sent us 28 and the remaining 49 have come to us from 25 various Authorities up and down the country. The average age of our 10 admissions during the year has been 10 years, and these have taken the places of a corresponding number who left us on attaining the school leaving age. This average age is high, and in consequence some children who are admitted at 12 and at 14 years of age have a very short residence in the school. On looking through the after-careers of our ex-pupils one is impressed with the fact that those who seem to be doing best are generally those whose residence in the school was the longest. They are usually better controlled, their habits of industry have been better developed and they are more capable of giving satisfaction to their employers. The fact too that feeble-minded children learn very slowly points to the need for a longer period of instruction, and if the beginning of this educational course is unduly delayed then inevitably it follows that bad habits have to be eradicated before any appreciable progress can be achieved.

Our average intelligence quotient has been at the same level as in 1937, viz. 66, which means that the degree of our average intelligence is exactly two-thirds that of the normal elementary school population. We have rather more children below this average than we have above it. At such an intelligence quotient children find three R work very laborious and their rate of learning of both reading and arithmetic is very slow, and they make very great demands upon both the ability and the patience of the teacher. Children whose intelligence quotient is 75 and over are usually much more responsive and they learn more easily and such children are represented by about one quarter of our total number. During the year eight of our children improved their reading attainment by a matter of two years, while a half of the school made a full year's progress in reading. A third of our pupils made a full year's progress in spelling while one quarter made similar progress in arithmetic. The improvement in spelling and arithmetic is apt to be much less marked by reason of the fact that the child in his daily experience finds less frequent occasion to occupy his mind with spelling problems and arithmetical calculations, but throughout his day he is constantly being confronted with all sorts of reading matter.

Our curriculum underwent no serious change during 1938 although some slight modifications were introduced as the need became apparent. The Intermediate Boys, aged 11 to 13, commenced a series of weekly lessons in Domestic Subjects with a view to extending their knowledge



and also rendering them more generally appreciative and useful in their own homes. The Senior Girls, aged 13 to 16 also commenced a series of weekly lessons in simple Woodwork with a view to increasing their resourcefulness and self-reliance. Through the year very good work was done in their practical or craft lessons and several useful models etc. were completed, including a garden wheel-barrow, a pair of large household folding-steps, a veneered needlework table as well as many less ambitious but equally useful efforts. The boys also kept the footwear of the whole school in repair and throughout the year they did excellent work in the garden. The Girls, too, completed numerous pieces of very attractive embroidery and other needlework. Much of the children's work was displayed on Prize Day and the prospect of having work exhibited on that occasion affords an enormous incentive, making for diligent and sustained effort, especially with the older boys and girls.

The year has seen much improvement in the children's ability at games and swimming. The introduction of such games as Rugby Touch and Skettle Ball has resulted in a quickening of the boys' play and has produced a greatly increased alertness. Cricket and football have been thoroughly enjoyed and in the few matches played the boys have acquitted themselves well. During the summer sixteen boys were approved as swimmers—about a half of the number under instruction, and the swimming bath was particularly attractive at the beginning and at the close of most days. Our Sports Day in June was a quiet but happy occasion and our House System brought every boy and girl into one or more of the various contests and allowed of no mere on-lookers. Guiding and Scouting have occupied some of the older children, and the officers concerned, Miss D. Bather and Mr. F. Lyon have spent considerable time and thought in their endeavours to make the work attractive and beneficial. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their Guiding and Scouting and have fully appreciated their weekly meetings. A visiting teacher, Miss W. Stoye, has voluntarily devoted her Tuesday evenings to the girls to teach them Folk Dancing and Games, and according to the season and the weather conditions the girls have had the use of the Playroom, the Play Ground or the Field on these occasions, and have worn just their physical training vests and shorts. They have derived considerable benefit from this instruction.

Numerous places of interest in the district have been visited during



the year by parties of children and much has been done to render these visits instructive. Small parties visited the Lichfield Laundry, a poultry farm at Sutton Coldfield and a Lichfield dairy farm. Visits were also made to the local Nurseries, to the celebrated Potteries at Armitage, to the Dudley Zoo, and on two occasions parties of boys were taken to local mines and permitted to explore the workings both above and below ground and to venture as far as the coal face. A day at the sea-side was enjoyed by all who stayed at school for the summer holidays when thirty-five children were taken by rail to Rhyl.

The event of the year was our Prize Day on 8th December. The prizes were presented by Mrs. H. J. Carpenter, the wife of the Vicar of Walsall, and a large number of Walsall and Lichfield friends as well as many parents were present for the occasion. The display of the children's craft work was much admired and the children's entertainment was also well received. The programme included a Percussion Band Performance, a Physical Training and Club Swinging Display, some Country Dancing, a selection of Songs and Recitations besides a Sketch which greatly amused everyone. The Mayor and the Mayoress, Alderman and Mrs. P. Collins honoured us with their presence, and all conspired to render the occasion a success and one such as would afford the children delightful recollections throughout the ensuing year.

The usual holidays were observed in the summer and at Christmas, on each occasion about a half of our number proceeding to their homes and the remaining half staying at school. Those spending their holidays at school were taken on numerous outings and picnics according to the weather conditions. During the Christmas Holidays two very delightful parties were enjoyed and a visit was made to a Birmingham Pantomime. It is very gratifying to note the improved condition in which many children now return to school from holidays at home ; for the most part they come back quite clean and tidy. Sometimes grateful parents comment upon the considerable improvement they have observed in behaviour and helpfulness. Such remarks are most encouraging. One parent who formerly had the greatest difficulty in controlling his boy and even in getting him to remain at home and in bed at night, is now so proud as to style the boy "a little gentleman."

During the year many ex-scholars have written letters at one time or another in their desire to keep in touch with the school, and some have visited. Three came back to spend some of their summer holiday

with us, one from London, another from Warwick and a third from Walsall, and four were present on Prize Day. Two ex-scholars are soldiers serving in India, and one is in the Royal Navy. The reports regularly received concerning our ex-scholars are most satisfactory reading, and many it seems give not only entire satisfaction to their employers, but also very considerable joy to their parents.

## 20 Dental Treatment.

The following report upon the work of the School Dental Service has been supplied by Mr. D. A. Parsons, Senior Dental Surgeon.

“With the increase in the Dental Staff, the figures for 1938, naturally, show a substantial increase on those of 1937. It has, however, still been found impossible to inspect every school. Of the 58 school departments in the Borough, only 35 were inspected, and more significant still, of the 15 senior departments only 4 were inspected. To be more precise, out of 4,000 children attending senior schools, only 800 (approximately) received a routine inspection. This means that the percentage of children leaving school with defective teeth still remains very high.

The acceptance rate continues to rise, and is now approximately 83% and although in part due to the automatic rise, year by year, of re-inspections, it does, I think, indicate that the parents of Walsall are becoming more and more dentally minded, and are showing a greater appreciation of the treatment offered them at the Dental Clinics. Nevertheless, whilst this rise in the acceptance rate is to be welcomed as a very healthy sign, it will, however, prove to be an embarrassment, if the supply fails to keep pace with the demand.

The number of casual cases still remains very high, and will continue so as long as there is a large number of schools not inspected. I hope to see, however, a substantial reduction in this figure during 1939.

I expressed the hope in my report of last year, that it may be possible to commence routine inspection at the age of five; unfortunately this has not been realised, and I fail to see how it can be, without a corresponding reduction in the number of schools inspected. The result is, that when a child is first inspected at six years of age, dental caries is widespread, and wholesale extraction necessary.

From the foregoing observations, one must reach the inevitable conclusion that the present dental staff still cannot satisfy the needs

of the Borough and that one more dental officer is nesecsary, but not necessarily another clinic.”

## 21. SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

673 pupils at Queen Mary's School were medically inspected during the year, 435 (266 boys, 169 girls) as routine inspections, 237 (175 boys, 62 girls) as revisions, and 1 special case.

The principal defects found were dental caries, 52 cases, defective vision 62, orthopaedic defects 29 (spinal curvature 11, flat foot 14).

### Revisions, 1938.

	Boys	Girls
Defect cured . . . . .	53	18
„ improved . . . . .	33	24
„ not improved . . . . .	16	17
No treatment received . . . . .	73	3
	<hr/> 175	<hr/> 62

Dental caries and defective vision are the two most common defects noted amongst the pupils attending our secondary schools ; dental caries is much too common. The attention of the parents is always called to the presence of dental caries, but too frequently we find on re-inspection that our defect notice has been ignored. Nearly 8% of all the pupils inspected were found to be suffering from some degree of dental caries requiring treatment.

62 pupils were found to be suffering from defective vision, and 27 of these were referred for treatment.

## 22. SURVEY OF SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

During the year a survey of the school medical and dental services was undertaken by two medical officers from the Board of Education. A careful scrutiny of all the special services was made. Visits were paid to the Open Air School and to a number of the elementary schools—both old and new—in the borough, and all the minor ailment and dental clinics were visited whilst work was in progress.

The following are a few of the more important points from the report which was sent to the Education Committee by the Board of Education as a result of the survey.



(1). The Board desire warmly to commend the Authority on the efficient state of this Service over which the School Medical Officer exercises thorough and effective supervision.

(2). All three school clinics are inadequate for the volume of work being done.

(3). Medical inspection, both of elementary and secondary schools, is carried out in accordance with the Board's requirements, but it can only be accomplished by the present staff with great difficulty and by working at high pressure.

The staff of medical officers at present employed is insufficient for the volume of the work, and it is desirable that it should be increased by the equivalent of a halftime officer as soon as possible.

(4). It is suggested that a consulting cardiologist should be appointed to pay periodical visits to the rheumatic clinic.

With regard to the last recommendation the advice and assistance of an eminent cardiologist in the Midlands was sought, and it is hoped that arrangements for the services of a cardiologist and the periodic examination by electro-cardiogram of children suffering from rheumatic heart disease, will be completed at an early date. Proposals for improvements in the accommodation at the school clinics are also under consideration.

### 23. STATISTICAL TABLES.

The Statistical Tables required by the Board of Education are appended.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES A. M. CLARK,

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER



## AREA : WALSALL C.B.

Table I

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INSPECTED YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER, 1938

## A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

## Number of Code Group Inspections—

Entrants .. .. .	1,816
Second Age Group .. .. .	1,685
Third Age Group.. .. .	1,831
Number of other Routine Inspections ..	100
	———— Total 5,432

## B. OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections .. .. .	6,873
Number of Re-Inspections .. .. .	3,413
	———— Total 10,286

Table II.A

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION  
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938

DEFECT OR DISEASE  (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	Requiring treatment  (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment  (3)	Requiring treatment  (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment  (5)
SKIN.				
Ringworm				
Scalp.. .. .	1	—	1	—
Body.. .. .	—	—	6	—
Scabies .. .. .	7	—	102	—
Impetigo .. .. .	6	—	375	—
Other Diseases (Non- Tuberculous) .. .. .	3	1	142	—
EYE				
Blepharitis .. .. .	8	7	169	—
Conjunctivitis .. .. .	1	1	213	—
Keratitis .. .. .	—	—	12	—
Corneal Opacities .. .. .	—	—	8	—
Defective Vision (excluding squint) .. .. .	218	93	10	—
Squint .. .. .	21	6	3	—
Other Conditions .. .. .	2	2	1	—

DEFECT OR DISEASE  (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	Requiring treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)	Requiring treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)
EAR.				
Defective Hearing .. ..	14	6	15	—
Otitis Media .. ..	13	10	418	—
Other Ear Diseases .. ..	3	1	6	—
NOSE AND THROAT.				
Chronic Tonsillitis only ..	122	290	137	—
Adenoids only .. ..	13	15	39	—
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids .. ..	52	16	545	—
Other Conditions .. ..	1	—	6	—
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous) .. ..	1	15	40	—
DEFECTIVE SPEECH .. ..	—	4	—	—
HEART AND CIRCULATION.				
Heart Disease—Organic ..	2	17	37	—
Functional .. ..	5	41	22	—
Anaemia .. ..	11	15	123	—
LUNGS.				
Bronchitis .. ..	57	55	1221	—
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases .. ..	—	5	26	—
TUBERCULOSIS.				
Pulmonary—Definite ..	1	1	—	—
Suspected .. ..	5	3	4	—
Non-Pulmonary—Glands ..	1	—	—	—
Bones and Joints ..	—	2	2	—
Skin .. ..	—	—	—	—
Other forms .. ..	—	—	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM.				
Epilepsy .. ..	—	—	6	—
Chorea .. ..	—	1	38	—
Other Conditions .. ..	1	1	83	—
DEFORMITIES.				
Rickets .. ..	—	—	5	—
Spinal Curvature .. ..	34	35	17	—
Other Forms .. ..	41	21	95	—
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES	99	31	2167	—

**Table II.A—continued**

B. NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES).

Group (1)	Number of Children		Percentage of Children found to require treatment (4)
	Inspected (2)	Found to require treatment. (3)	
Prescribed Groups—			
Entrants .. ..	1,816	172	9.5
Second Age Group .. ..	1,685	251	14.9
Third Age Group .. ..	1,831	275	15.0
TOTAL (Prescribed Groups) ..	5,332	698	13.1
Other Routine Inspections ..	100	15	13.1

**Table II.B**

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS

Age groups	Number of children inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants .. ..	1816	34	1.9	1560	85.9	221	12.2	1	0.06
Second Age-group ..	1685	49	2.9	1452	86.2	183	10.9	1	0.06
Third Age-group ..	1831	126	6.9	1512	82.6	193	10.5	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	100	—	—	86	86.0	14	14.0	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	5432	209	3.8	4610	84.9	611	11.2	2	0.03

Table III

## RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA

## CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS

*e.g.*, Blindness, Deafness, Mental Defect, Epilepsy, Active Tuberculosis, Crippling, Heart Disease.

Nil.

## BLIND CHILDREN

At certified Schools for the Blind	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no school or Institution	Total
2	—	1	2	5

## PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN

At Certified Schools for the Blind	At Certified Schools for the partially Sighted	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	6	3	—	5	14

## DEAF CHILDREN

At Certified Schools for the Deaf	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
5	—	—	1	6

## PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN

At Certified Schools for the deaf and Partially deaf	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	17	—	—	17



**Table III—continued**  
**MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN**  
**FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN**

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
26	61	3	35	125

**EPILEPTIC CHILDREN**  
**CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM SEVERE EPILEPSY**

At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	—	—	2	2

**PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN**

**A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN**

**I. CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS**

At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
4	14	—	3	21

**II. CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS**

At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
3	24	1	4	32

Table III—continued

## B. DELICATE CHILDREN

At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
60	300	—	32	392

## C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN

At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
2	26	—	22	50

## D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE

At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
—	62	3	14	79

**Table IV**

**RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR  
ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 1938**

**GROUP I—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see  
Group V.)**

Disease or Defect  (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment, during the year		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm—Scalp .. .. .	4	—	4
Ringworm—Body .. .. .	18	—	18
Scabies .. .. .	30	—	30
Impetigo .. .. .	1697	—	1697
Other Skin Diseases .. .. .	99	—	99
MINOR EYE DEFECTS— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II) .. .. .	271	—	271
MINOR EAR DEFECTS .. .. .	52	—	52
MISCELLANEOUS— (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chil- blains, etc.) .. .. .	2726	—	2726
TOTAL .. .. .	4897	—	4897

**GROUP II—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects,  
treated as Minor Ailments—Group I)**

Defect or Disease	No. of defects dealt with			No. of children for whom spectacles were			
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other- wise	Total	Prescribed		Obtained	
				Under the Authority's Scheme	Other- wise	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other- wise
Errors of Refrac- tion (including Squint) ..	531	—	531	354	—	349	—

## GROUP III—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat

Received Operative Treatment			Received other forms of Treatment	Total Number Treated
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital	By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
32	97	129	21	150

## GROUP IV—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

	Under the Authority's Scheme			Otherwise			Total number treated
	Residential treatment with education	Residential treatment without education	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic	Residential treatment with education	Residential treatment without education	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic	
No. of children treated	10	—	340	—	—	—	340

## GROUP V—DENTAL DEFECTS

(1) Number of Children who were—					Totals
(a) Inspected by the Dentist :					
Routine Age Groups 5-15	..	..	4,665		
Specials	..	..	2,471		
					7,136
(b) Found to require treatment	..	..			6,730
(c) Actually treated	..	..			6,081



Table IV—continued

(2) Half-days devoted to—						
Inspection	..	..	..	..	32	
Treatment	..	..	..	..	1,104	
					—	1,136
(3) Attendances made by the Children for treatment						8,755
(4) Fillings—						
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	3,361	
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	112	
					—	3,473
(5) Extractions—						
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	..	3,588	
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	..	12,054	
					—	15,642
(6) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	..	..	..	..	..	4,766
(7) Other operations—						
Permanent Teeth	{					
Temporary Teeth	}	..	..			1,214

## GROUP VI

## UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS

(i) Average number of Visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses	..	..	..	..	18
(ii) Total number of Examinations of Children in the Schools by the School Nurses	..	..	..	..	53,850
(iii) Number of individual Children found unclean	..				3,285
(iv) Number of Children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	..	..	..		—
(v) Number of cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken—					
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	..	..			—
(b) Under School Attendance By-Laws	..				—

## SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Table I

## RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS, 1938

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS	..	..	..	..	435
B. OTHER INSPECTIONS	..	..	..	..	237
Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	1

DISEASE OR DEFECT	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS	
	Requiring treatment	For Observation
MALNUTRITION .. .. .	—	—
UNCLEANLINESS—Head Verminous .. .. .	—	—
(Nits) .. .. .	—	—
Body .. .. .	—	—
SKIN—		
Ringworm .. .. .	—	—
Head .. .. .	—	—
Body .. .. .	—	—
Scabies .. .. .	—	—
Impetigo .. .. .	—	—
Other conditions .. .. .	—	—
EYES—		
Blepharitis .. .. .	2	1
Conjunctivitis .. .. .	—	—
Keratitis .. .. .	—	—
Corneal Ulcer .. .. .	—	—
Corneal Opacities .. .. .	—	—
DEFECTIVE VISION .. .. .	27	35
Squint .. .. .	1	—
Other conditions .. .. .	—	—
EAR—		
Defective hearing .. .. .	2	2
Otitis Media .. .. .	—	—
Other diseases .. .. .	—	—
NOSE AND THROAT—		
Chronic Tonsillitis only .. .. .	—	16
Adenoids only .. .. .	—	—
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids .. .. .	—	—
Other conditions .. .. .	—	—
Carried forward .. .. .	32	54



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Being that for the year ended December 31st, 1938

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.  
Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Fourth Annual Report, viz., that for the year 1938, giving particulars of the work performed under your direction by the Sanitary Inspectors.

## Particulars of Nuisances and other Matters reported by the Sanitary Inspectors

Defective drains, defective and dilapidated water and drainage systems requiring alteration	..	..	..	..	..	435
Defective sinks	..	..	..	..	..	18
Yard paving requiring attention	..	..	..	..	..	13
Water closet cisterns requiring renewal or repair	..	..				41
Defective ashbins	..	..	..	..	..	170
Insanitary cesspools, wells or closet pans				..	..	10
Defective firebox to boiler	..	..	..	..	..	4
Offensive accumulations of refuse		..	..	..	..	56
Animals kept in such a place or manner as to be a nuisance	..					13
Premises in such a state as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance, (houses)	..	..	..	..	..	485
Defective spouting	..	..	..	..	..	68
Rat infestations	..	..	..	..	..	22
Dirty houses requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	19
Factories—requiring limewashing and cleansing				..	..	5
„ requiring provision of adequate ventilation					..	2
„ —w.c. accommodation requiring attention				..	..	13
Verminous houses requiring fumigation or spraying	..				..	55
Tents, vans or sheds for removal		..	..	..	..	11
To BOROUGH SURVEYOR	{	Dangerous Structures	..	..		47
		Obstructed or foul street gullies				16
		To empty ashpits	..	..		45
Sundries	..	..	..	..	..	71
Total						1,619



### Visits by the Sanitary Inspectors

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors have made 41,607 visits of Inspection, details of which are set out in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

### Notices—Informal and Statutory

Number of notices outstanding 31/12/37	..	..	..	157
Number of nuisances and other matters reported during the year				1,511
Number of Informal notices served during the year	..	..		1,084
Number of Statutory notices served during the year	..	..		314
Number of nuisances abated	..	..	..	1,351
Number of notices not complied with, December 31st, 1938	..			333

#### Details of requirements of such notices :—

Housing repairs, Public Health Act, 1936	..	..	..	184
Housing repairs, Housing Act, 1936	..	..	..	16
Drainage work	..	..	..	36
Repairs to water closets	..	..	..	37
Regulation dustbins	..	..	..	11
Bug infestations	..	..	..	8
Animals kept as to be a nuisance	..	..	..	5
Sundry	..	..	..	52

### Sanitary Inspection of the District

Particulars of (a) Additional water closets, drains, etc., provided in compliance with notices served.

Water closets	..	..	..	60
Flushing cisterns to water closets	..	..	..	54
Ashbins replacing worn out ashbins	..	..	..	228
Connections to sewer	..	..	..	6
Intercepting traps	..	..	..	14
Gully traps	..	..	..	49
Inspection chambers	..	..	..	33
Number of yards of new drainage laid	..	..	..	835
Sanitary sinks and waste pipes	..	..	..	8

## (b) Works of repair to closets, drains, etc.

---

Handflushed closets converted to flush pedestal closets	..	1
Privies converted to flush pedestal closets	.. ..	7
Trough closets converted to flush pedestal closets	..	1
Waste water closets converted to flush pedestal closets	..	8
*Water closet pans fitted	.. ..	105
„ „ traps fitted	.. ..	7
„ „ flushing cisterns fitted	.. ..	37
Ventilating shafts to drains fitted	.. ..	3
Sets of drains repaired	.. ..	38
„ „ „ cleared	.. ..	238
Sinks repaired	.. ..	6
Drains disconnected from sewer	.. ..	7
New covers fitted to chambers	.. ..	13
Stoppers fitted to rodding eyes	.. ..	8
Houses newly drained to sewer	.. ..	6
Yards repaved	.. ..	13

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\*Includes 81 of the pedestal washdown type.

## (c) Other Nuisances

---

Accumulations of refuse removed	.. ..	46
Nuisances from keeping of animals or poultry abated	.. ..	10
Ditch or cesspool cleansed or filled in	.. ..	4
Unwholesome premises limewashed	.. ..	13
Tents, vans, sheds, etc., removed from district	.. ..	11
Cellars emptied and cleansed or filled in	.. ..	6
Sundry matters	.. ..	73

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## (d) Works of repair to houses

Houses repaired throughout under Public Health Acts	..	228
Houses re-spouted .. .. .	..	69
Houses whitewashed throughout .. .. .	..	13
Verminous houses sprayed .. .. .	..	55
Houses, sash cords fitted and windows repaired	..	21
Houses, other minor repairs .. .. .	..	166
New wash-houses .. .. .	..	8
Wash-houses repaired .. .. .	..	8
New boilers and fireboxes .. .. .	..	3
Boilers and fireboxes repaired .. .. .	..	22
<b>Number of Houses Improved</b>		
By repairs .. .. .	..	616
By improving W.C. and ashbin accommodation	..	543
By abatement of other nuisances .. .. .	..	596
Total Houses Improved		1,755

**Structures Dispensed with**

Ashpits cut down and made into receptacles for ashbins	..	4
Ashpits dispensed with .. .. .	..	1
W.C's. (replaced by new W.C's.) .. .. .	..	10

**DRAIN TESTS**

65 drain tests have been made at the following premises :—

Houses .. .. .	127
Factories .. .. .	3
Provision Merchants' premises .. .. .	1
Food premises .. .. .	1
Cinemas .. .. .	1
Hotels .. .. .	1
School .. .. .	2
Post Office .. .. .	1

for the following purposes :—

Investigations into rat infestations .. .. .	25
„ „ existence of defective drains .. .. .	12
„ „ origin of foul smells .. .. .	11
„ as to whether houses are drained to sewer ..	3

Testing of drains to trace outlet .. .. .	4
„ „ new drains .. .. .	10

#### METHOD OF TESTING DRAINS

By smoke .. .. .	31
„ coloured water .. .. .	17
„ grenades .. .. .	17
Number of defects found .. .. .	33

All the defects found have since been satisfactorily remedied.

#### ALTERATIONS TO DRAINS

42 notices of alterations to drains were received, and the necessary inspections made under the provisions of Sections 41 and 42 of the Walsall Corporation Act, 1925.



## HOUSING ACT, 1936.

### HOUSES CLOSED OR DEMOLISHED

#### Houses closed—

##### Housing Act, 1936

(a) Individual Unfit	..	..	..	..	..	28
(b) Parts of Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	9
(c) Houses in Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	..	418
TOTAL CLOSED						455

#### Houses demolished—

##### Housing Act, 1936

(a) Individual Unfit	..	..	..	..	..	30
(b) Houses in Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	..	497
TOTAL DEMOLISHED						527

N.B. This is the largest number of houses demolished in any one year.

#### Persons displaced during the year—

1,943 persons were displaced from unfit houses and rehoused in Council houses.

Particulars of Housing Work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors will be found in the Medical Officer of Health's Report on Housing.

### OVERCROWDING

The following table gives briefly the position with regard to overcrowding at the end of 1938.

Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	..	605
Number of families dwelling therein	..	655
Number of persons dwelling therein	..	5,046
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	..	189
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	..	277
Number of persons concerned in such cases	..	2,235

## OVERCROWDING SURVEY

In order to ascertain as far as possible the amount of overcrowding existing at the end of the year, a survey was made of the 693 cases of overcrowding which were existing at the end of 1937, and visits were also made to 960 families who, at the last complete survey or subsequent inspections, were near the overcrowding point. The total number of inspections made in connection with this survey is 1,661.

### PROGRESS MADE IN THE ABATEMENT OF OVERCROWDING

During the year much good work has been done with respect to the rehousing of families who were living in overcrowded conditions, particularly in unfit houses. Of the 277 cases of overcrowding relieved, 127 have been abated by rehousing families in Council houses.

The following table shows the net decrease in the number of recorded cases of overcrowding in the Borough at the end of this year compared with the position as to overcrowding at the time of the first survey.

Number of Cases of Overcrowding Recorded

	IN COUNCIL HOUSES.	IN OTHER HOUSES EX- CLUDING "UNFITS."	IN "UNFIT" HOUSES.	TOTALS
At first overcrowding survey (com- pleted March 1936) .. ..	519	389	383	1,291
At 31st December, 1938 .. ..	414	89	102	605
Net Decrease .. ..	105	300	281	686

### OTHER STATISTICS

#### New Cases of Overcrowding Reported during the Year

Most of the 189 new cases of overcrowding have arisen by reason of children reaching the age of 1 or 10 years, and thereby causing the permitted number of persons for the dwelling to be exceeded.

### Cases of Overcrowding Abated during the Year

Reason				No. of Families concerned
Occupier's family removing	..	..	..	146
Sub-tenant's family removing	..	..	..	28
Reduction in size of family	..	..	..	101
Increase of accommodation	..	..	..	2
Total .. .. .				<hr/> 277 <hr/>

### Dwellinghouses at Overcrowding Point

The survey has disclosed that the following number of houses are occupied up to the limit of the accommodation of the house, i.e. the number of equivalent adults in occupation equals the permitted number.

Council houses .. .. .	284
Other houses .. .. .	106
Total .. .. .	<hr/> 390 <hr/>

### NEW HOUSES REQUIRED TO ABATE OVERCROWDING

With regard to the actual number and types of new houses necessary to abate overcrowding, these requirements will need amendment from time to time in the light of the circumstances then existing. The sizes of the overcrowded families listed for rehousing alter considerably in a short period, as the fresh cases created or old cases being relieved vary in number of persons in family, for the reason that overcrowding depends on the size of the house occupied. It appears, however, that

there is still need for additional houses of the larger types. The survey has disclosed that there are 287 families of 7 or over equivalent adults who have been living in overcrowded conditions since the original survey in March, 1936, and it appears unlikely that the overcrowding with respect to these families will be abated unless they can be rehoused in four or five-bedroom type houses. Many of these families requiring large type houses are at present accommodated in houses which would become available to overcrowded families who require only a three-bedroom type house.

### OVERCROWDING OFFENCES

Twenty-seven cases of overcrowding which constituted offences have been reported; eighteen during the year and nine at the end of the year as a result of the re-inspections. Statutory notices to abate overcrowding have been issued in 15 cases, and in 12 cases the overcrowding was abated by the occupier without the service of a notice.

### TEMPORARY OVERCROWDING LICENCES

Seven temporary overcrowding licences have been issued to occupiers of dwellinghouses authorising them to permit their houses to be occupied by a person or persons in excess of the permitted number owing to the existence of exceptional circumstances.

### PERMITTED NUMBERS OF PERSONS FOR DWELLINGHOUSES

All applications from landlords and agents for permitted numbers in respect of dwellinghouses which come under their control have been dealt with and the required information despatched to each applicant.



1,924 circular letters have been sent to landlords and agents who had not applied for the permitted numbers for dwellinghouses in their ownership or management for insertion on the tenants' rent books.

Permitted numbers relating to most of the dwellinghouses in the Borough have now been applied for, and the Department will continue to send out reminders until all the necessary applications have been made by landlords.

Summary proceedings were instituted against one landlord under Section 62 (1) of the Act, and a fine of 10/- was imposed.

### INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS, 1920—1938

During 1938 one owner, after carrying out works of repair, applied for a certificate with respect to a house for which the Local Authority had granted a certificate of disrepair. On inspection the house was judged to have been rendered reasonably fit for human habitation, and the clearance certificate was accordingly granted.

One occupier was granted a certificate of disrepair on the grounds that the house was not in all respects fit for human habitation. The owner speedily carried out works of repair, and on application to the Health Committee was granted a certificate that the house had been in all respects rendered reasonably fit for human habitation.

### HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

This type of dwelling does not at the moment present a serious problem so far as Walsall is concerned, as many of this unsavoury type of dwelling have been closed and demolished. Only 3 such houses now remain, and these may be the subject of action under the Housing Act at a future date.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

The common lodging houses in the borough continue to be kept in good order.

## TENTS, VANS, SHEDS

During the year 12 notices were served on van dwellers under Section 106 of the Walsall Corporation Act, 1930, to remove their vans from land within the Borough. All vans were removed in compliance with the notices.

At the end of the year there were no van-dwellers occupying sites within the Borough.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

At the end of the year 1938 there were 101 fish fryers, 3 rag and bone dealers, and one hide and skin depot registered with the Local Authority as offensive trades under Part V. of the Public Health Act, 1936. The premises are regularly visited. No summary proceedings have been called for during the year with respect to these premises.

At one fried fish shop the stoves have been taken out, the trade discontinued, and the premises converted into a general dealers shop.

Two fried fish shops have been demolished.

Two written applications have been received for consent to the establishing of the trade of fish fryer and later withdrawn by the applicants.

Five written applications have similarly been received and granted after consideration by the Health Committee.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

### Particulars of Repairs carried out at Factories

#### FACTORIES AT WHICH MECHANICAL POWER IS USED

Sanitary accommodation has been improved at 11 factories at which mechanical power is used, as follows :—

8 new pedestal pans and 7 new flushing cisterns have been fitted, one water closet has been erected, and 2 ventilated spaces have been arranged between water-closets and factories.

Other improvements include :—

78 yards of new drains laid, 6 gully traps, and 1 ventilating shaft fitted, and 2 inspection chambers constructed and one connection to the sewer made. 3 water closets and 2 urinals were cleansed and limed, roof-lights were fitted to a w.c. and a urinal, one set of trough closets was cleansed, and new seats were fitted to a range of water closets.

#### FACTORIES AT WHICH MECHANICAL POWER IS NOT USED

One new water closet has been erected, one pedestal pan and 2 flushing cisterns have been fitted. 1 range of trough closets has been demolished. 22 yards of new drain, one inspection chamber and one intercepting trap have been laid. 36 workrooms were limewashed.

As from the 1st July, 1938, the supervision of sanitary accommodation at all factories is now the duty of the local authority, and the Sanitary Inspectors have been appointed as authorised officers under this Act. The provisions respecting temperature, ventilation and cleanliness at those factories which do not employ mechanical power, continue to be the duties of the local authority. Upwards of 600 additional premises have now been brought under regular inspection by the operation of this Act, and systematic visits to factories with regard to sanitary accommodation will be commenced early in 1939.

## OUTWORKERS' HOMES

In accordance with the provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as repealed by the Factories Act, 1937, firms have submitted lists of persons employed by them as outworkers. 24 of these lists have been received, including 9 from other local authorities. The lists total 247 names.

Those outworkers who reside in the Borough have been visited by the Sanitary Inspectors, who have reported that in each case the home has been kept in a satisfactory condition having regard to the legislation in force and accepted hygienic standards of production.

Where according to our lists outworkers reside outside the Borough, particulars are forwarded to the Authority concerned for their information.

The Authorities who sent lists to this Department were :—

Birmingham	..	..	..	..	3 lists
Manchester	..	..	..	..	2 „
Westminster	..	..	..	..	2 „
and Stourbridge	..	..	..	..	2 „

156 persons, all of whom were females, were employed in 38 other districts.

Herewith are particulars of lists submitted.

Trades	No. of Lists	Outworkers		
		Contractors	Homeworkers	
			Male	Female
Clothing .. ..	6	7	4	2
Gloves .. ..	6	—	2	230
Buckles .. ..	2	—	—	2
Castings .. ..	8	4	—	3
Brushes .. ..	2	—	—	9

### UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS

There are no underground sleeping rooms in the Borough.

### REPAIRS AT PROPERTIES OTHER THAN DWELLINGHOUSES

PUBLIC HOUSES.—One water closet has been demolished and 4 new water closets and one urinal have been erected. 2 pedestal pans and 2 flushing cisterns have been fitted in existing closets.

50 yards of new drain, 5 gully traps, one soil pipe ventilating shaft and one inspection chamber have been laid down.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.—There are 40 cowsheds in the Borough, and these are limewashed twice yearly. 511 visits have been made to



cowsheds, dairies, milk shops and milk stores during the year. All these premises were found to be in a clean and sanitary condition.

4 cowsheds have been extensively remodelled, and additional cooling and sterilizing rooms have been provided. In each case the remodelling is in connection with application for "Accredited" licence, and the whole of the work has been carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors.

### Premises under Regular Inspection

Cowsheds .. .. .	43
Retail Purveyors of Milk with Dairy in the Borough .. ..	67
Purveyors of Milk from other districts selling Milk in the Borough .. .. .	49
Milk Sterilising Plants .. .. .	5
Milk Pasteurising Plants .. .. .	3
Producers of "Accredited" Milk .. .. .	2
Bottlers of "Accredited" Milk .. .. .	1
Bottlers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk .. .. .	1
Dealers in Designated Milk .. .. .	18
Bakehouses .. .. .	48
Bakers' and Confectioners' Shops .. .. .	102
Slaughterhouses—Registered .. .. .	6
„ —Licensed .. .. .	18
Butchers' Shops .. .. .	138
Ice-cream Shops .. .. .	165
Fried Fish Shops .. .. .	101
Fishmongers' Shops .. .. .	19
Grocers' Shops .. .. .	120
Green Grocers' and Fruiterers' Shops .. .. .	123
Hotels, Restaurants, Cafes, Dining Rooms, Licensed Premises, etc. .. .. .	230
General (Food) Shops (Small Business) .. .. .	550
Houses-let-in-lodgings .. .. .	3
Common Lodging Houses .. .. .	3
Factories .. .. .	770
Outworkers' Homes .. .. .	96
Rag and Bone Dealers .. .. .	3
Hide and Skin Depot .. .. .	1
Cinemas, Theatres, .. .. .	10
TOTAL .. .. .	2,695

## THEATRES AND CINEMAS

All cinemas in the town have been visited several times during the year by the inspectorial staff, and at an inspection made on the 7th July, 1938, by the Special Sub-Committee of the Council, were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Following complaints as to the lack of ventilation at certain cinemas, the attention of all licensees was drawn to this matter, and they were asked to ventilate their houses as much as possible.

In the middle of the year the "Savoy" Cinema, Park street, was completed, and was officially opened on the 3rd October. This cinema was erected on the site formerly occupied by "Her Majesty's Theatre," which was demolished for the erection of the new structure.

Applications have been made by other companies to erect 2 cinemas within the Borough. Regarding both proposed new structures, the Sub-Committee of the Council dealing with the matter have informed the applicants that they will grant Cinematograph licences subject to the premises being erected in accordance with revised plans and elevations to be submitted to and approved by the Sub-Committee, and to the conditions already agreed upon by the applicants.

During the year one cinema closed down and at a later date re-opened as a variety theatre. Negotiations were proceeding regarding the provision of satisfactory sanitary accommodation.

There has been instituted a system of air sampling from cinemas at regular intervals. One sample taken revealed an undesirable carbon dioxide content, and representations were immediately made to the management regarding the alteration of the ventilation system, and the matter is receiving attention.

Repairs which have been carried out at cinemas include—2 new pedestal pans fitted in water closets, one water closet cleansed, and 4 flushing cisterns repaired.

## RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

435 visits have been made for the purpose of investigating rat intestations and laying bait. This figure is a reduction on that of last year by approximately 200 visits, and is explained by the fact that the baiting of public sewers, sewage disposal works and refuse tips has

been largely taken over by the Borough Surveyor's Department, who co-operate with this Department in the destruction of rats throughout the year, and in particular during National Rat Week.

The laying of baits and the remedying of defects in drainage systems has resulted in the abatement of 16 infestations.

## NATIONAL RAT WEEK

During National Rat Week the attention of the public was drawn to the dangers to general health resulting from infestations by rats and mice, also to the tremendous damage done yearly by these pests.

The principal means of advertisement was the display of special poster bills in all parts of the town. Advertisements were also inserted in the two local weekly newspapers. Letters and special poster bills were sent to all ironmongers and chemists in the town, who were asked to co-operate in the drive by displaying posters, traps, rat biscuits and viruses in noticeable positions on their premises.

Allotment secretaries were circularised at the end of October and requested to send to this department requisitions for rat bait needed for allotments under their control. Twelve allotment secretaries made application for bait, and 6,850 assorted rat biscuits were issued. Several secretaries later reported in writing—some on the marked decrease in rat activity after the baiting, and others on the fact that all baits laid were taken by the pests. One allotment secretary reported that his society employs the services of a rat catcher throughout the year, and that he had been responsible for killing over 200 rats.

Under the supervision of the staff of this department, 6,000 rat biscuits were laid at sewage disposal works, in sewers and on tips.

Only 18 complaints of rat infestation were received during October and November.

Whilst there is special concerted action for rat repression during National Rat Week, immediate attention is given to all complaints received throughout the year. Many drains are tested during investigations into such complaints, and practical assistance and advice are given to owners and occupiers of infested premises.



During the year many buildings in the central area, where a certain amount of congestion is found, received special attention for rat infestation, and considerable works of rat proofing-were undertaken.

It has been found that the demolition of old properties in the centre of the town sometimes leads to temporary infestations at adjoining properties, but these infestations are very soon under control.

### CANAL BOATS

#### INSPECTIONS—BOATS

Number of boats inspected .. .. .	14
Number of boats conforming with Acts and Regulations .. .. .	14
Number of boats with one or more infringements .. .. .	Nil

There were no infringements of regulations found on any boats inspected during the year.

No case of infectious disease has been found on the boats.

#### OCCUPANTS

Number of men on boats .. .. .	17
Number of women on boats .. .. .	15
Number of children on boats—	
Under 5 years of age .. .. .	7
Over 5 and under 12 years .. .. .	5

The total registered accommodation on the 14 boats was for 47 adults, and the total number occupying equalled 38 adults.

9 boats had fore-cabins, 3 of which were in use as sleeping places.

The condition of the boats may be classified as 13 good and one fair.

The occupants appeared to be in good health.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors made 1,485 visits to infected houses. The number of houses which had been notified as “infected houses,” and at which occupants had not recovered from a notifiable disease or been removed to hospital at the 31st December, 1938, was :—

Diphtheria .. .. .	2
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	6
Pneumonia .. .. .	11
TOTAL .. .. .	<u>19</u>



## MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS

Act under which proceedings were taken.	Nature of Offence.	Remarks.
Milk Act, 1934. Section 10.	Bottling "Tuberculin Tested" milk without holding necessary licence to do so.	Defendant was convicted, and a fine of £3 was imposed.
Small Tenements Recovery Act, 1838.	Continued occupation of house included in clearance area after notice to quit had been served.	The Justices made an order for the Corporation to obtain vacant possession of the house at the expiry of 21 days from the date of prosecution.
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, made under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915. Ditto.	A person delivering milk in bottles unlawfully filled a bottle of milk otherwise than on registered premises. Ditto.	The Justices found the case proven, and ordered defendants to pay costs. Ditto.

## DISINFESTATION

During the year a scheme was commenced for the treatment of the effects of families being removed from unfit houses to new Council houses. In the first instance, because of the large number of families to be dealt with, a contractor was employed, and the contractor dealt with 119 families. Training in the use of hydrogen-cyanide was given to members of the Health Department staff, and up to the end of the year 204 families had their effects removed, disinfested and delivered to the new Council houses. The bedding was treated with steam at the Goscote Isolation Hospital.

It was not possible to proceed with the erection of a depot at Bloxwich, but plans have now been completed and it is hoped to have a disinfestation centre, complete with steam disinfector, before the end of 1939, which will greatly facilitate the work.

Details of the work of disinfestation carried out at houses is included in the Medical Officer's Report.

FOOD INSPECTION  
PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924  
RETURN OF NOTICES, MEAT INSPECTION, ETC.

Notices of intended slaughter have been received as follows :—

Under Article 8 (1),	Slaughter at fixed times on fixed days	1
„ „ 8 (1),	3 hours' notice of slaughter .. ..	1,374
„ „ 8 (2),	“Emergency” slaughter .. ..	17
„ „ 9,	Notice of disease .. ..	2
TOTAL NOTICES .. ..		<hr/> 1,394 <hr/>

Included in this total are :—

230 Notices of “Sunday” slaughter

16 Notices from pig feeders slaughtering at a slaughterhouse.

7 Notices of slaughter of cattle under the Tuberculosis Orders of 1925 and 1938.

MEAT INSPECTION AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES

	1938	1937
Number of cattle examined .. ..	<hr/> 6,491	<hr/> 6,914
„ „ calves „ .. ..	2,893	2,733
„ „ swine „ .. ..	12,835	13,381
„ „ sheep and lambs examined .. ..	32,800	28,345
TOTAL CARCASSES ..	<hr/> 55,019 <hr/>	<hr/> 51,373 <hr/>

It will be noted that the rise in the total number of animals slaughtered during 1938 is due almost solely to the rise in the slaughter of sheep and lambs.

MEAT INSPECTION AT SHOPS AND STORES

ENGLISH MEAT :—	229 quarters of beef.
	119 sheep carcasses.
	68 pig carcasses.
	34 calf carcasses.
IMPORTED MEAT :—	89 quarters of beef.
	45 sheep carcasses.

During the year 6,540 visits were made to slaughterhouses, and 1,947 visits made to shops, stores, etc., for examining meat exposed or offered there for sale for human consumption.

Meat inspection at the larger slaughterhouses is carried out by Mr. E. F. Miner. The seven slaughterhouses in the Bloxwich and Harden Wards have been inspected by Messrs. G. N. Richards, I. Thomas and P. G. Tremain. The eight remaining slaughterhouses in Bridge and Caldmore Wards are visited by Messrs. W. J. Woodward and S. Monks.

In addition to meat inspection during normal office hours, meat inspection is carried on in the evenings at the two largest slaughterhouses in the Borough. The inspection is undertaken by all the qualified Meat and Food Inspectors in turn and they are allowed time off duty in lieu of overtime so worked.

There is a regular and comprehensive inspection of meat and other foods at butchers' shops, fishmongers, greengrocers' grocers' premises and stalls in the retail markets, additional to the examination of carcasses at slaughterhouses.

## UNWHOLESOME FOOD DESTROYED

### TUBERCULOUS

BOVINE.—21 carcasses and all organs, 13 forequarters, 505 heads, 16 briskets of beef, 1 side of beef, 92 pieces of beef and trimmings, 2 hindquarters, 1,089 sets of lungs, 239 livers and 326 other organs.

PIGS.—10 carcasses and all organs, 4 sides of pork, 757 heads, 279 sets of fries, 8 livers, 12 sets of lungs and 96 other organs.

### OTHER DISEASES, UNSOUND, ETC.

BOVINE.—6 carcasses and all organs, 3 heads, 1 portion of beef, 3 pieces of beef and trimmings, 1 hindquarter, 156 sets of lungs, 761 livers and 129 other organs.

PIGS.—19 carcasses and all organs, 2 quarters, 3 pieces of leg, 10 heads, 39 sets of fries, 64 livers, 225 sets of lungs and 65 other organs.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—19 carcasses and all organs, 2 legs and loins, 4 pieces of mutton, 698 livers, 33 sets of lungs and 27 plucks.

IMPORTED MEAT.—139 lbs beef.

FISH.—168 lbs.

EGGS.—1,162.

POULTRY.—36 lbs.

PRESERVATIVES.—10 lbs.

FRUIT.—1,210 lbs.

#### CANNED GOODS

MEAT.—70 tins.

FISH.—47 tins.

MILK.—40 tins.

TOMATOES.—4 tins.

FRUIT.—53 tins.

OTHER FOODS.—7 tins.

#### Summary of Weight

##### ENGLISH MEAT.

BOVINE, Tuberculous	..	..	48,157 lbs.	}	62,828 lbs.
PIGS,	„	..	14,671 lbs.		
BOVINE, Other Diseases	..	..	16,740 lbs.	}	22,446 lbs
PIGS,	„	..	2,919 lbs.		
SHEEP,	„	..	2,787 lbs.	}	
IMPORTED MEAT	..	..	139 lbs.		139 lbs.
OTHER FOODS. Canned Goods	..	..	394 lbs.	}	
Fruit	..	..	1,210 lbs.		1,986 lbs.
Eggs	..	..	188 lbs.		
Other articles	..	..	194 lbs.		

---

Total .. 87,399 lbs.

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or approximately 39 tons.

With but few exceptions, these Unsound Foods were destroyed in the incinerator at the Public Works Depot, Wolverhampton Street.

The total weight of food destroyed was 39 tons, of this, 52.35 per cent. by weight were English carcasses and meat, and 44.65 per cent. by weight were offals, livers, lungs, etc., inspected at time of slaughter, 70.98 per cent. being affected with tuberculosis and 26.02 per cent. with other diseases. Imported meat and other foodstuffs, such as fish, fruit, canned goods, etc., equalling 3.00 per cent. make the total. Two notices of disease in English carcasses observed during slaughter (as required by the Public Health (Meat) Regulations) were received. All the unsound foodstuffs, with the exception of small articles which can



readily be destroyed on the premises, were delivered to the Public incinerator for destruction.

### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Renewal licences granted to slaughtermen in 1935 by the Health Committee expired on the 30th April, 1938.

Applications were made by 90 slaughtermen for the renewal of existing licences before the 30th April. All the applications were granted by the Health Committee.

During the year the Health Committee granted licences to 11 persons, who had not previously held licences under this Authority, to act as slaughtermen within the meaning of the above Act.

Three licences granted to slaughtermen by this Authority expire in April, 1939, all other licences now in force expire in April, 1941.

There were at the end of 1938, 104 persons holding slaughtermens licences issued by the Walsall County Borough.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

On the 7th April, 1938, the Health Committee visited 23 of the 24 slaughterhouses in use in the Borough, and on the 23rd May, 1938, directed that renewal licences be granted in respect of 17 slaughterhouses: on the 27th June, 1938, the Health Committee granted a licence in respect of premises in Warwick Street, newly equipped for the slaughter and stunning of animals, after inspecting the premises the same day, the licence is due to expire on the 31st May, 1940. This slaughterhouse takes the place of a slaughterhouse which is scheduled to be demolished in a Clearance Scheme under the Housing Act, 1936: the disused slaughterhouse was not licensed on the 23rd May.

There were 24 slaughterhouses at the end of the year, as compared with 1936 and 1937, as follows :—

				Dec., 1936		Dec., 1937		Dec., 1938
Registered	..	..	..	6	..	6	..	6
Licensed	..	..	..	19	..	18	..	18
				—		—		—
Total	..	..		25		24		24
				—		—		—

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 AND 1938

Information as to results of examinations of designated milks are given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Herewith are particulars of licences in operation under these Orders during the year, viz. :—

Pasteurising Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	3
Producers of Accredited Milk	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bottlers of Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bottlers of Accredited Milk	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dealers in Accredited Milk	..	..	..	..	..	9
Dealers in Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	..	..	20
Dealers in Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	..	..	..	15
Supplementary licence holders	..	..	..	..	..	9

The Sanitary Inspectors pay special attention to the conditions attached to licences granted under these Orders, inspections are made from time to time in order to see that the prescribed conditions are complied with.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926  
 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING AND MARKING)  
 ACTS, 1928 AND 1931

During inspections at retail markets and foodshops, the Sanitary Inspectors enforce the provisions of the various Marking Orders made under the above Acts. No statutory action has been taken under these Acts during the year.

## THE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER OF 1925

The Tuberculosis Order of 1925 was repealed by the Tuberculosis Order of 1938 on the 1st April, 1938, in which the principal duties of the Order were transferred from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

In the course of his quarterly inspection under the Order of 1925, Mr. J. L. Buckingham, the Veterinary Inspector to this Borough under that Order, reported on 1 cow as suffering from "chronic cough and showing definite clinical signs of Tuberculosis." The cow was slaughtered and Mr. Buckingham gave a post mortem examination certificate of "Tuberculosis Advanced." Compensation was paid to the owner according to the scale laid down in the Order.

In this case diagnosis was aided by a sample of the udder secretion which developed a positive reaction upon bacteriological examination.

### PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CONTAMINATION OF FOOD INTENDED FOR SALE

757 visits have been made to food stores, food shops, fried fish shops, ice cream shops, etc., to which the requirements of Section 72 of the Public Health Act, 1925 apply. Here are particulars of repairs or alterations carried out at food shops, etc. :—

6 intervening ventilated spaces have been constructed between foodstores and water closets.

1 room connecting directly with a water closet has ceased to be used as a food store.

1 additional water closet with pedestal pan and flushing cistern fixed has been provided at a grocer's shop.

Additional repairs include :—

1 new flushing cistern fitted, 28 yards of new drain laid, 2 gully traps and 1 inspection chamber constructed, yard paving made good, 1 water closet unstopped, grid provided to 1 gully, 1 yard tidied, 3 sets of drains have been cleared, 2 accumulations of refuse have been removed and 1 case of rat infestation abated.

### FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

SAMPLES.—Seven samples of Fertilisers have been obtained informally, and the Agricultural Analyst has certified that each sample is genuine. For particulars of analyses, see Analyst's report.

On no occasion have I been required to take action as "official sampler".

The requirements of Section 6 of the Act, with respect to the furnishing of a Statutory Statement with any Fertiliser or Feeding Stuff when sold by retail, have been generally complied with.

### FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928

225 articles were obtained in the year and were submitted as samples to the Public Analyst: of these, 109 articles selected from purchases



of small lots of goods (generally groceries) were submitted to the Analyst informally, and 116 samples were taken formally under the Act.

One sample of Margarine was taken under Section 6 of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, as regards marking.

See Public Analyst's Report for particulars of samples and analysis thereof.

## CONCLUSION

There has been considerable change of staff during the year. Mr. G. N. Richards and Mr. I. Thomas, Sanitary Inspectors, resigned on their being appointed to positions with other Authorities, and Mr. H. L. Birkett and Mr. R. C. Green, who were appointed as Temporary Inspectors, resigned on their being appointed to permanent positions with other Authorities. Mr. F. Winder was appointed in December as Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector, this being a new position, the appointment being approved by the Council "in view of the increased duties and responsibilities which had devolved upon the Chief Sanitary Inspector during recent years". Mr. E. O. Edwards was appointed as Sanitary Inspector to deal with works of disinfestation, and Mr. W. H. M. Edwards was appointed to a temporary post as Assistant Sanitary Inspector. Mr. R. C. Green, who was a member of the clerical staff of the department, obtained his qualifications as a Sanitary Inspector, and was appointed for a short while to a temporary post before obtaining an appointment in Birmingham. Mr. R. C. Chalmers was appointed to the staff of the department as junior clerk. The changes in staff, and the periods which elapsed between filling of the appointments, to some extent hampered the work of the department.

The year was noteworthy for the commencement of the Disinfestation Scheme. Two members of the Health Department staff, Messrs. Brownsword and Payne, were allocated to these duties, together with Mr. Bagnall, who was appointed as an additional helper. This scheme may be said to be another landmark with regard to the development of Health Services, and is bound to have important results in the betterment of Housing conditions in the Borough.

The special duties in connection with Housing continue, and seem now to have formed part of the normal work of the Sanitary Inspector.



Particular attention has now to be given to Overcrowding, and it is evident that the final abatement of overcrowding and redistribution of many of the larger families is going to take a considerable time.

The inspection of food continues to take a large part of the Inspectors' time, and the policy of the Health Committee in appointing Inspectors who possess the necessary qualifications with regard to meat and food inspection is now showing good results.

For a number of years the Sanitary Inspectors have worked under difficult conditions with respect to office accommodation, and it is pleasing to report that at the end of the year a move was made to better and additional office accommodation, although the use of two of the rooms is still only of a temporary nature.

Towards the end of the year the help of the department was sought with regard to works of Civil Defence. A survey was made of basements accommodation, and the preparation of this report has been severely handicapped by further duties in this connection: these duties are interfering with the normal work of the department.

In a difficult year, may I again pay tribute to the support which I have received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, Chief Officials, and my colleagues in the Health Department, to whom I tender my sincere thanks.

Yours obediently,

C. A. STANSBURY, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

27th June, 1939.

# REPORT

## OF THE

### PUBLIC ANALYST

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The following is the report of Mr. F. E. Thompson, A.R.C.Sc., F.I.C. the Public Analyst, on the work performed during the year under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

“I have the honour to present my annual Report for the year 1938. 225 samples were submitted to me for analysis during the year under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. All the samples were submitted by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

109 samples were purchased without the formalities of the Acts. 116 samples were purchased with the formalities of the Acts.

The following table gives the comparative figures for England and Wales, the Boroughs and Walsall.

Year	No. of samples of Food and Drugs analysed per 1,000 of population			
	England and Wales	Boroughs		Walsall
1933	3.46	Average	.. 4.37	2.10
1934	3.52	„	.. 4.37	2.10
1935	3.60	„	.. 3.35	2.29
1936	3.67	„	.. 3.47	2.18
1937	3.79	„	.. 4.41	2.10
1938	Not available	Not available		2.00

Table A. gives particulars of the 225 samples.

Table A

Description	Number Analysed	Number Adulterated
Milk .. .. .	119	11
Butter .. .. .	28	—
Margarine .. .. .	1	—
Lard .. .. .	3	—
Jam .. .. .	4	—
Marmalade .. .. .	1	—
Honey .. .. .	2	—
Tomato Ketchup .. .. .	1	—
Mixed Spice .. .. .	1	—
Ground Almonds .. .. .	2	—
Custard Powder .. .. .	2	—
Olive Oil .. .. .	1	—
Dried Fruit .. .. .	7	—
Syrup .. .. .	1	—
Candied Peel.. .. .	2	—
Glace Cherries .. .. .	2	—
Pepper .. .. .	2	—
Malt Vinegar .. .. .	1	—
Mixed Pickles .. .. .	2	—
Sausages .. .. .	8	—
Tapioca .. .. .	1	—
Demerara Sugar .. .. .	1	—
Sugar .. .. .	1	—
Salmon and Shrimp Paste .. .. .	1	—
Beef Suet .. .. .	2	—
Tea .. .. .	2	—
Condensed Sweetened Machine Skimmed Milk .. .. .	2	—
Condensed Full Cream Milk Unsweetened .. .. .	2	—
Sardines .. .. .	1	—
Tinned Cream .. .. .	1	—
Fresh Cream .. .. .	1	—
Table Jellies .. .. .	2	—
Lemonade Powder .. .. .	1	—
Arrowroot .. .. .	1	—
Caraway Seeds .. .. .	1	—
Cheese .. .. .	2	—
Fancy Cakes .. .. .	1	—
Sponge Sandwich .. .. .	1	—
Cochineal .. .. .	1	—

Description.	Number Analysed	Number Adulterated
Lemon Cheese .. .. .	1	—
Camphorated Oil .. .. .	1	—
Compound Syrup of Figs .. .. .	1	—
Tincture of Iodine .. .. .	2	—
Boracic Powder .. .. .	1	—
Cinnamon and Quinine Essence .. .. .	1	—
Potassium Iodine .. .. .	1	—
Glauber Salts .. .. .	1	—
Glycerine .. .. .	1	—

4.88% of the samples were adulterated. The percentages of adulteration for 1937, 1936, 1935 and 1934 were 3.12, 1.72, 2.11 and 5.65 respectively.

### MILK

119 samples, 116 formal and 3 informal, were submitted, of which 11, equivalent to 9.24%, were adulterated. The percentages of adulteration for 1937, 1936, 1935 and 1934 were 5.73, 3.88, 5.00 and 10.89 respectively.

The average composition of the 119 samples was as follows :—

Solids not Fat	.. .. .	9.00
Fat	.. .. .	3.53
Total Solids	.. .. .	12.53

Table B. gives particulars of the adulterated samples :—

**Table B**

Sample No.	Nature of Adulteration
74	3.33% Deficiency of Fat.
76	3.33% „ „
77	5.00% „ „
78	6.66% „ „
79	3.33% „ „
80	5.00% „ „
102	3.33% „ „
106	8.30% „ „
111	11.60% „ „
112	5.00% „ „
145	16.60% „ „



## JAM

4 samples were submitted. All were genuine. Table C gives the amounts of preservative present.

Table C

Sample No.	Parts of Sulphur Dioxide per Million
42	19.2
55	38.4
94	Nil.
211	12.8

## CREAM

4 samples were submitted. All were genuine and contained no preservative. Table D gives the amounts of Fat present.

Table D

Sample No.	Fat
95	23.50%
129	47.00%
187	44.78% From Cakes.
188	44.80%

## SAMPLE No. 95

The tin was labelled "Rich Cream."

A rich cream should contain 40.0% to 55.0% of Fat. The Fat contents, 23.5% show that the cream was of poor quality and that the reading on the label must mislead the purchaser. I have previously, on several occasions, directed attention to these facts.

The remaining statements on the tin were correct.

## PASTEURISED MILK "PHOSPHATASE TEST"

11 samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for "phosphatase test," and of these 9 (or 81.8%) were efficiently pasteurised, while in

the remaining 2 cases (or 18.2%) some technical error had occurred during the process, (i.e., imperfect temperature or time control or a small admission raw milk.

### SAUSAGES

8 samples were submitted. All were genuine. 4 samples contained no preservative. Table E gives the amounts of preservative present :—

**Table E**

Sample No.	Parts of Sulphur Dioxide per Million
89	265.00
97	440.00
114	169.60
155	297.60

### DRIED FRUIT

7 samples were submitted. All were genuine. 2 samples contained preservative. Table F gives the amount of preservative present :—

**Table F**

Sample No.	Parts of Sulphur Dioxide per Million
199	326.4
213	198.4

### MIXED PICKLES

2 samples were submitted. The samples were genuine and contained no preservative.

### MARGARINE

1 sample was submitted. It was genuine and contained no preservative.

### FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

Under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926, 7 samples were

submitted as follows :—

Garden Lime	..	..	1
Superphosphate of Lime	..	..	1
Sulphate of Ammonia	..	..	2
Bone Meal	..	..	1
Nitrate of Soda	..	..	1
Dried Blood	..	..	1

All samples conformed with the requirements of the Act.

### CONCLUSION

With the exception of milk, Walsalls' Food Supply for the past year was satisfactory. In 1938, the percentage of adulterated samples of milk was 9.24% as compared with 5.73% for 1937."

# INDEX.

GENERAL	PAGE
Ambulance .. ..	21
Ante-Natal Clinics .. ..	23
Births .. ..	9, 10
Blind Persons .. ..	24, 25
Chemical Analysis .. ..	24
Committees .. ..	3
Deaths .. ..	11—15
Foreword .. ..	6—8
General Statistics .. ..	9
Home Nursing .. ..	23
Hospitals .. ..	21
Infant Mortality .. ..	18
Infant Welfare Centres .. ..	22
Infectious Diseases .. ..	16, 17, 26—30
Inquests .. ..	10
Laboratory Work .. ..	23
Medical Examinations .. ..	24
Orthopaedic Clinic .. ..	22
Rheumatic Clinic .. ..	22
School Clinics .. ..	22
Staff .. ..	4, 5
Toddler's Clinics .. ..	23
Tuberculosis Dispensary .. ..	23
Ultra Violet Light Clinic .. ..	23
Vaccination .. ..	11
Venereal Diseases Clinic .. ..	23
Vital Statistics .. ..	9—11, 19, 20

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Cancer .. ..	28, 29
Diphtheria .. ..	26, 27
Goscote Isolation Hospital .. ..	26, 27, 30
Immunisation .. ..	27
Measles .. ..	28
Pneumonia .. ..	28
Scarlet Fever .. ..	26, 27
Whooping Cough .. ..	28

## MUNICIPAL GENERAL HOSPITAL

Manor Hospital .. ..	31—33
Medical Relief and Vaccination .. ..	33

VENEREAL DISEASES	PAGE
Attendances .. ..	34, 35
New Clinic .. ..	34

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Acts, Bye-Laws, Regulations .. ..	46—48
Ashpits and Ashbins .. ..	39
Atmospheric Pollution .. ..	42, 43
Bed Bugs Eradication .. ..	43, 44
Camping Sites .. ..	42
Closet Accommodation .. ..	39, 40
Drainage and Sewerage .. ..	38
Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 .. ..	45, 46
Health Lectures .. ..	48
Public Cleansing .. ..	39
Sanitary Inspections .. ..	40, 41
Sanitary Notices .. ..	41
Shops Act, 1934 .. ..	41, 42
Smoke Abatement .. ..	42
Swimming Baths .. ..	44, 45
Water .. ..	36—38

## HOUSING

Action under Statutory Powers .. ..	49—51
Clearance Areas .. ..	51—54
Closing Orders on parts of Buildings .. ..	54
Council Houses .. ..	63
Defects remedied .. ..	49
House Inspection—Health Committee .. ..	62
Houses Closed and Demolished .. ..	55—61
Houses Repaired .. ..	50
Houses Represented .. ..	61
Housing Acts, 1930 and 1936 .. ..	61
Housing Programme .. ..	62
Inspection of Dwellinghouses .. ..	49
New Houses .. ..	63
Overcrowding .. ..	50, 51
Persons Displaced .. ..	61
Structural Alterations or Repairs .. ..	55
Undertakings to repair .. ..	54, 55



INDEX—*continued*INSPECTION AND  
SUPERVISION OF FOOD

	PAGE
"Accredited" Milk .. ..	65
Adulteration .. ..	69
Inspection of Cows .. ..	64, 65
Meat and Other Foods .. ..	67, 68
Milk Examinations .. ..	65—67
Tubercle Bacilli in Milk .. ..	64
Veterinary Inspection .. ..	64

MATERNITY AND CHILD  
WELFARE

Ante and Post-Natal Clinics ..	76—78
Births Notified .. ..	88
Health Visitors' Work .. ..	87
Infant Feeding .. ..	80, 81
Infant Life Protection .. ..	84, 85
Infant Mortality .. ..	78—80
Infant Welfare Centres .. ..	81, 82
Maternity Hospitals .. ..	70, 71
Maternal Mortality .. ..	75, 76
Maternity and Nursing Homes	71, 72
Medical Aid and Provision of Milk .. ..	85
Midwives Acts, 1902—36 .. ..	73
Midwives Practising in Borough	73
Municipal Midwifery Service ..	72, 73
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. ..	86
Orthopaedic Treatment .. ..	86
Toddlers' Clinics .. ..	82—84
Ultra Violet Light Clinic .. ..	86, 87

## MENTAL DEFICIENCY

Mentally Defective Persons ..	89—91
Occupation Centre .. ..	90, 91

## TUBERCULOSIS

After Care Committee .. ..	106
Attack Rate .. ..	94
Cases Notified .. ..	92
Deaths .. ..	92, 93
Death Rates .. ..	94
Dispensary .. ..	95—99
Domiciliary Treatment .. ..	99

## PAGE

Extent of Tuberculosis .. ..	93
Extra Nourishment .. ..	99
Goscote Sanatorium .. ..	103
Home Nursing .. ..	100, 101
Home Visits .. ..	100
Housing Tuberculous Persons	100
Institutional Accommodation	102
Pelsall Sanatorium .. ..	102
Surgical Tuberculosis .. ..	99
Treatment .. ..	102—105
Ultra Violet Light Clinic .. ..	99, 100

## SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

Beacon School, Lichfield .. ..	124—128
Blind Children .. ..	121
Co-operation of Parents and Teachers .. ..	109
Crippled Children .. ..	112—114
Cripples .. ..	122
Deaf Children .. ..	121
Dental Treatment .. ..	128
Diphtheria Immunisation .. ..	118
Heart Disease .. ..	122
Holiday Camp .. ..	121
Infectious Disease .. ..	117—119
Malnutrition .. ..	110, 111
Medical Inspection .. ..	108, 109, 110
Mental Defectives .. ..	123—128
Milk Marketing Board Scheme	111
Mothercraft Instruction .. ..	108
Nursery Classes .. ..	120, 121
Open Air School .. ..	119, 120
Physical Education .. ..	114—117
Physically Defective Children ..	121, 122
Rheumatic Clinic .. ..	122, 123
Ringworm .. ..	117
School Accommodation .. ..	107
School Clinics .. ..	111, 112
School Hygiene and Buildings	108
Secondary Schools .. ..	129, 140, 141
Staff .. ..	107
Statistical Tables .. ..	131—141

INDEX—*continued*

	PAGE
Survey of School Medical Service .. ..	129, 130
Ultra Violet Light Clinic ..	114

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Additional W.C's, Drains, etc.	143
Canal Boats Acts .. ..	158
Common Lodging Houses ..	152
Conclusion .. ..	166, 167
Disinfestation .. ..	159
Drain Alterations .. ..	146
Drain Tests .. ..	145, 146
Factories Act, 1937 .. ..	153
Fertilising and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926 .. ..	165
Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928 .. ..	165, 166
Food Contamination .. ..	165
Food Destroyed .. ..	161, 162
Food Inspection .. ..	160—163
Houses Closed or Demolished	147
Houses Improved .. ..	145
Houses Let-in-Lodgings ..	151
Housing Act, 1936 .. ..	147
Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts	151
Magisterial Proceedings ..	159
Meat Inspection .. ..	160, 161
Merchandise Marks Act, 1926..	164
Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938 ..	164
Nuisances .. ..	142, 143, 144

	PAGE
Offensive Trades .. ..	152
Outworkers' Homes .. ..	153, 154
Overcrowding .. ..	147—151
Premises under regular inspection	155
Properties Repaired .. ..	154, 155
Public Health (Meat) Regula- tions, 1924 .. ..	160—163
Rat Week .. ..	157, 158
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 .. ..	156—158
Repair Work .. ..	145
Slaughterhouses .. ..	163
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	163
Structures Dispensed with ..	145
Tents, Vans, Sheds .. ..	152
Theatres, Cinemas, etc. ..	156
Tuberculosis Order, 1925 ..	164
Underground Sleeping Rooms	154
Visits by Sanitary Inspectors ..	143

### PUBLIC ANALYST'S REPORT

Cream .. ..	171
Dried Fruit .. ..	172
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	172
Jam .. ..	171
Margarine .. ..	172
Milk .. ..	170, 172
Pickles .. ..	172
Samples .. ..	168—173
Samples Analysed and Adulter- ated .. ..	169, 170
Sausages .. ..	172



